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Women OF KOREA

No. 4 (84) 1979

Ferry at Popyong

During their residence in Pataokou, the great revolutionary leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, his father Kim Hyong Jik, his mother Kang Ban Sok, his uncle Kim Hyong Gwon and his younger brother Kim Chol Ju would cross the Amnok-gang River through this ferry to carry on their energetic revolutionary work.

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Women of KOREA

No. 4 (84) 1979

THE ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE KOREAN DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S UNION

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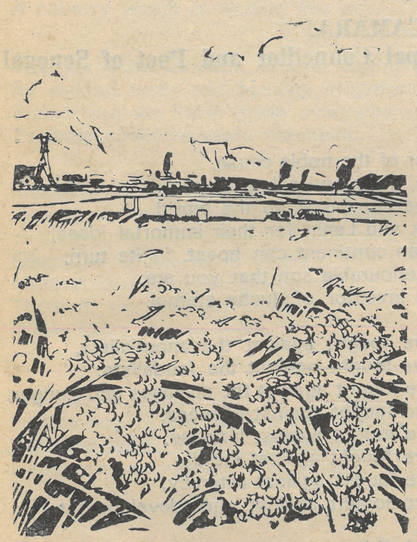

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FRONT COVER:

With a joy of bumper harvest. Photo shows Labour Hero Kung Ok Hui (right) who is Chairman of the Management Board of the Oeso Co-op Farm in Kaechon County.

INSIDE FRONT COVER:

Ferry at Popyong

INSIDE BACK COVER:

A water-colour painting: In the Height of Speed Campaign

BACK COVER:

A Scenic Chongsokjong

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ko/P/sc

Hymn to Marshal KIM IL SUNG, the Creator of the Immortal Juche Idea

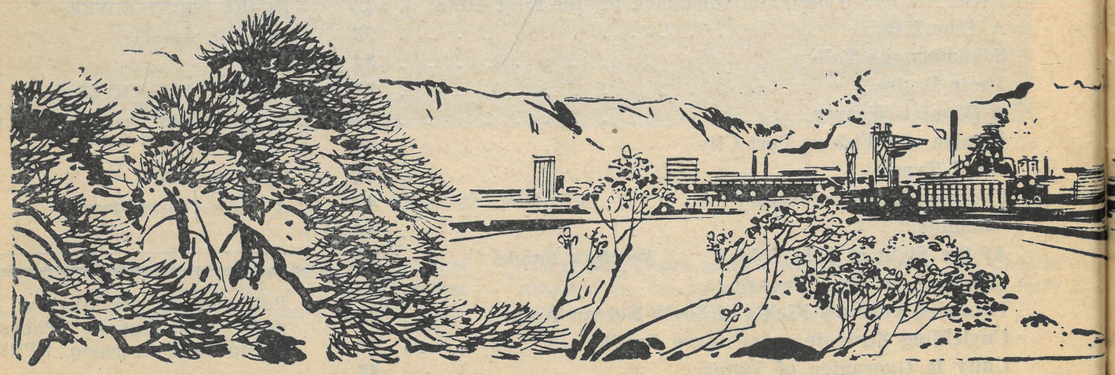
BOUBACAR CAMARA,
Dakar Municipal Councillor and Poet of Senegal

You are the midday sun
Pouring down its glowing rays
On beings and plants to infuse
Vitality and warmth fresh.
You are the moon that banishes the darkness,
And caresses with its rays soft and sweet
The creatures and things down here
To give them colours and beauty.
You are the polar star in the sky
Dominating by its sparkling light
All the other stars that surround it.
You are the limpid spring in the field
Flowing forth to wet the plains and valleys,
Fertilizing, vitalizing, beautifying everything,
And quenching the thirst of animals and men.

O great thinker of universal calibre,
Patriot and combatant eminent,
Defender of the noble cause,
Homage, glory and salute to you.
If Europe can boast to the world
Of Marx and Lenin for their immortal ideas,
The Asian continent can boast, in its turn,
Of its honourable son that you are,
O noble inventor of Juche eternal.

You have fought against the imperialists,
You have fought against the feudalists.
You have fought against the diseases and hunger,
You have fought against idleness.
You have fought against laziness,
You have fought against inertia.
You have fought against illiteracy,
You have fought against underdevelopment.

O great builder, perspicacious and ingenious,



O great soldier with courage legendary,
O eminent philosopher with a noble mind,
You have given the Korean people dignity.
You have turned indomitable Korea
Into a truly great power,
Ranking prominently among the countries
Developed and modern.
So, thanks to your talents and virtues legendary
Korea affords to the world
The example of a country where reign
Social justice and prosperity,
A country which is nice to live in.

Yes, you have turned it into an earthly paradise,
By sinking wells and building irrigation projects
Which turn the fields green everywhere
To bring about harvests abundant.

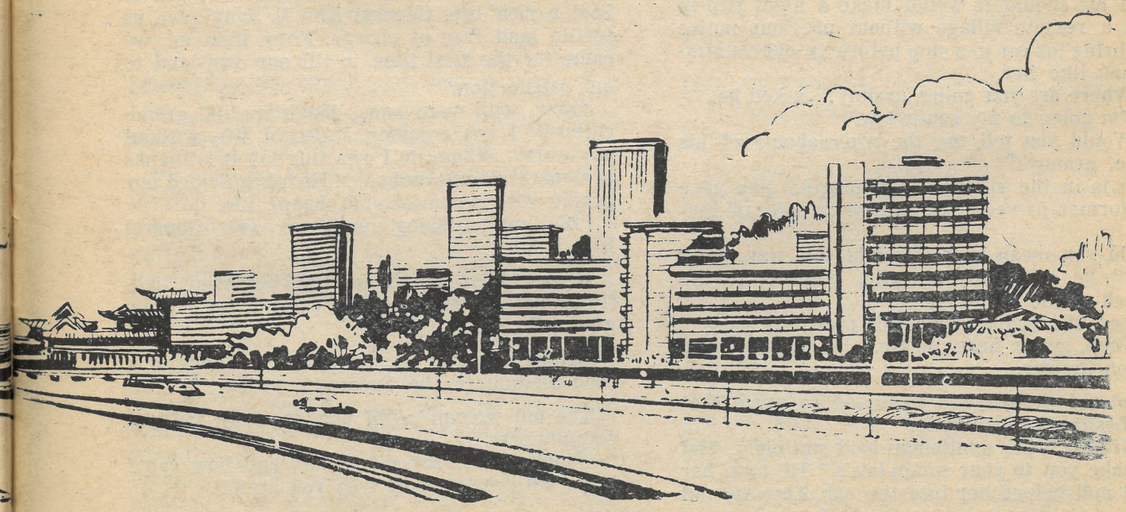
Industries small, medium and heavy
Have risen to become the best ones, modernly equipped.
Education is free at all levels,
Medical care is given gratuitous,
There is no unemployment,
While taxes are no more.

The people industrious are working every day
In factories, in the fields and in offices,
With the joy of living a sound life,
Living a life honourable and radiant.

Indeed, Korea lives in security internal
Thanks to the moral purity that you embody in yourself
And that you have passed on to them so generously,
While on the other side of the frontiers
She enjoys security external
Guaranteed by your great striking power.

All this is due to the application
Of the great revolutionary idea of Juche,
That will radiate from the zenith
To revolutionize the whole world.
Its brilliant rays beneficial
Will illuminate our planet all over
And will infuse into countries dependent or underdeveloped
A fresh blood and new ideas.
And thus will they surely achieve
Sovereignty national and international.

Your life which is woven with struggles all through
Is an example of courage and self-denial,
An example of fidelity and sacrifice,
An example of dignity and patriotism,
An example of virtues moral and spiritual,
That constitutes a legacy priceless
Offered to the rising generations,
Offered to the future generations of the whole world.



The great leader President Kim Il Sung is the benevolent leader of the people who always shares joys and sorrows with them while giving close attention to every aspect of their life with boundlessly warm affection.

Countless stories can be told of the noble popular personality of the great leader. The following is only one instance among many.

HAPPENING ON ROADSIDE

This story goes back to a summer day in 1957. An old woman of Chaeryong County in South Hwanghae Province, was going on a visit.

It was very hot, so she left home towards the evening to shield the heat. As she came to the highway the sun went down and dusk began to fall.

Just then, the horn of a car was heard from behind. The old woman stepped down on a dike to clear the way for it.

The car would pass by, she thought, but it made a quiet halt. The back door opened and she heard a voice calling her "Granny!"

Someone is asking the way, she guessed, and approached the car in a hurry.

The gentleman who alighted from the car was none other than the great leader President Kim Il Sung. But she failed to recognize him. It was not merely because of the dusk and of her night blindness. She had never even dreamed that the fatherly leader bearing state affairs upon his shoulders would make a night trip in such a remote village without previous notice and bring his car to a stop before an old countrywoman like her.

"Where are you going, granny?" asked he.

"I'm going to my son-in-law."

"Would you tell me the whereabouts of his home, granny?"

"It is in the village of Sadanggol." She gave the former name of the village in spite of herself.

"Do you mean to go straight this way, don't you?" he said with a smile, pointing to the stretch of the highway.

"Yes, it's right beside this road."

"Then, get in here, please." He urged her to get on the car.

The old woman was surprised so much that she hesitated for a while.

"Granny," the gentleman said smilingly, **"let me take you to your son-in-law's."** He took her hand and helped her into the car. Then he put her cane and parcel near the back window and shut the door himself.

Presently the car slid ahead.

Pressing the hand of the old woman who seated herself huddled up beside the window, he said, **"Please sit at your ease, granny."**

Correcting her posture on the soft seat she thought to herself: Where could I see such a gracious man as he in the world? Tears welled up in her eyes.

"Don't you get carsick, granny?" asked he looking at her kindly.

"No, I don't." So saying she was too much thankful to him.

The fatherly leader asked about the details of her home life and family.

Encouraged by his utmost kindness, she spoke her bosom freely.

Looking back upon her hard life during Japanese imperialist colonial rule, the old woman said:

"... After liberation we became overnight to lead a rich life. General Kim Il Sung gave us fertile land free of charge. From then on, we came for the first time to till our own land to our satisfaction.

"Now, with many sons, daughters and grandchildren I am enjoying a decent life without any worry. Whom do I owe this to? It is thanks to General Kim Il Sung .... He has provided our people with a comfortable, happy life.

"It's my lifelong wish to see General Kim Il Sung."

He heard her quietly and held her hands tightly in his, saying, **"You had a lot of hard time, granny."**

Before long the car arrived at the fork of a road leading to the Sadanggol village.

The old woman could not get down without compliments.

"You've been so kind to me, and how can I leave without knowing who you are?"

He said nothing, only smiling. He himself opened the door for her, helped her down and

The fatherly leader kindly gives a granny a lift to lessen her trouble of trip

handed her the parcel and cane.

"I wish you a long, long life, granny. Please take care of yourself on your way."

He bade her good-bye, bending, and got into the car.

The old woman did not know the fact that the warm-hearted benevolent person was the great leader President Kim Il Sung until she was informed of it by a man who was riding in the following car.

At that instant, she let go of her parcel and plumped down on the ground.

"How can things come this way on earth? What a stupid I am to fail to recognize General Kim Il Sung whom I did not forget even in a dream! .... That great man ... gave us land, and made us form agricultural co-operatives to lead a good life. He had done us favours higher than the mountain. Why should I fail to recognize him? Ah, me! Am I already in my dotage?"

She reproached herself, still squatting on the ground.

She was very regretful for that she could not say a word of thanks to the fatherly leader even though she was beside him.

"Fatherly leader, I wish you good health and a long, long life!" she reiterated her wishing with tears of emotion while gazing after his car until it was out of sight.

Such an impressive incident was not confined to this old woman.

Indeed, similar instances are too many to enumerate. The fatherly leader always finds himself among the people, sharing pleasure and pain with them and kindly looking after their life in detail.

That is why all of our people, ranging from the infant to the aged, look up to him wholeheartedly as their benignant father.

ANTI-JAPANESE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION ROUSED WOMEN TO REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLE

The Korean Democratic Women's Union (KDWU), the mass political organization of our women, was founded on November 18, 1945 by the great leader President Kim Il Sung. Though the KDWU is 34 years old, it has very deep historic roots.

With the guidance and help of the great leader, his mother Kang Ban Sok organized, on December 26, 1926, the Anti-Japanese Women's Association (AJWA), the first communist revolutionary women's organization in our country.

One of the most important tasks before the AJWA in those days was to organize and mobilize the broad sections of women to national liberation struggle.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung taught in the following vein:

Women account for half the population of our country. Therefore, if they support the revolution, they can prove a great strength. How is it possible to achieve the liberation and independence of the country without enlisting this strength?

In order to make the masses of women come out in the struggle for national liberation, it was necessary to rally them around the AJWA organizations.

Many women, however, were not awakened yet politically and failed to launch themselves actively into the struggle for the country's independence and national liberation.

Such being the situation, Kang Ban Sok got the AJWA to focus its effort on the political and propaganda work among women for their awakening. On the other hand, she herself picked the core elements out of women and trained them up so that they might rally the broad women masses round the AJWA organizations.

Thus the AJWA expanded its organizations rapidly in wide areas.

On the day of forming an AJWA organization at a rural village in the outskirts of Fusung, Mother Kang Ban Sok warmly congratulated its members, now the membership of a revolutionary body, and put forward an immediate fighting task.

She said: We are going to make a revolution, but it is nothing peculiar. It is to crush the Japanese imperialists and their lackeys and to fight to build a world where poor workers and peasants like us can make a good living equally as the master of the country. Only through such a revolution can we women also acquire our rights and live a decent life. So we women should all come out in the revolutionary struggle and the AJWA members take the lead in this struggle.

Thanks to the energetic activity and guidance of Mother Kang Ban Sok, the AJWA expanded its organizations and took a new measure to develop and perfect its system of organizational guidance. Early in 1928 in view of the enlargement of the scope of its activities, the AJWA gave two persons commission to take charge of the organizational and propaganda work under the chairman and appointed group leaders under them, thereby setting up the well-regulated organizational structure.

In order to enhance the political and ideological level of the membership according to the daily expansion and development of the AJWA organizations, Mother Kang Ban Sok set up evening schools, where the village women gathered to learn every evening. While teaching the Korean letters to them she explained in plain words why the Korean people were forced to lead a life of ruined people.

She also established a short course of study

Bringing up the new buds of revolution

and held a forum once a week.

In this course women were brought into gradual national and class awakening and came to turn out in the sacred struggle of liberating the country. The AJWA regarded it as its glorious mission, in particular, to render help to the revolutionary activity of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung who led the van in the struggle for defeating the Japanese imperialists and achieving the national liberation.

Secret liaison mission was one of the important assistance rendered by the AJWA to his revolutionary struggle. Extensive activity of the revolutionary organizations led by the great leader in various areas, required frequent liaison missions which were difficult works to be carried on breaking through the enemy's cordon.

The missions were discharged mostly by the AJWA members.

Each time the mother assigned the task of liaison to the association members, she stressed the need of special vigilance and secrecy, and minutely showed them the route to follow and means to overcome the possible difficulties in the way of fulfilling their mission. They discharged their tasks of liaison creditably covering tens or hundreds of kilometres in spite of the enemy's strict surveillance.

The AJWA also distributed the revolutionary publications issued under the guidance of the great leader. The newspaper *Saenal* (New Day) made its first appearance in Fusung on January 15, 1928. The newspaper was distributed far and wide. The mother herself took on this job together with the association members.

The AJWA gave active assistance to the revolutionaries, too.

To accomplish the revolutionary task assigned by the great leader, many revolutionaries went to the liberated areas and dynamically conducted the organizational and political work staying there for several days or several months.

The AJWA organizations cooked meals for them and furnished them with lodging and clothing, thus assisting them with all sincerity.

The members of the AJWA were enthusiastic

"The working people's organizations, as transmission belts linking the Party with the masses, are the most reliable assistants and reserve forces of our Party."

KIM IL SUNG

LEADING WOMEN'S UNION MOVEMENT ENERGETICALLY

Kim Jong Suk, an indomitable revolutionary fighter and anti-Japanese heroine, was born in 1917 in a poor peasant family.

She took part, at an early age, in the heroic anti-Japanese armed struggle organized and led by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and showed intense fidelity to him holding him in high esteem, and made a brilliant contribution to the accomplishment of the cause of the country's liberation (August, 1945).

After national liberation, she, upholding the line of building a new country set forth by the great leader, devoted her all energy and wisdom to the task of bringing the revolutionary idea of the great leader into full bloom on this land and realizing the women's emancipation.

The following are some instances among her countless activities.

* * *

With the founding of the Democratic Women's Union by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, our women, for the first time in Korean history, had a legal political organization of their own and came to take part proudly in social and political affairs and embarked on the worth-while struggle to create a new life shoulder to shoulder with men.

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Suk worked assiduously day and night for the

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in bringing up those children who lost their parents by the Japanese imperialists and the sons and daughters of fighters who set out in revolution.

The AJWA, the first revolutionary women's organization in our country, gained a remarkable success during three or four years since its formation by actively supporting the revolutionary work of the great leader.

The expansion of the AJWA organization by Kang Ban Sok, an outstanding leader of the Korean women's movement, under the infallible guidance of the great leader, and its exploits and experiences of work—all this served afterwards as a firm foundation and precious asset for the further development of the AJWA activity in the period of the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

Comrade Kim Jong Suk has a talk with the peasants in Kangnam County, South Pyongan Province, to get an understanding of the farming preparation in the countryside after agrarian reform

epochal development of the Women's Union giving herself no time to rest after the fatigue of the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

One day in May, 1946 she visited the office building of the Women's Union.

She acquainted herself thoroughly with the Women's Union functionaries' conditions of work, study and life and kindly examined their working plan and statistics of the Women's Union organization.

Then she taught: Women's Union organizations do not strike their firm roots yet into the broad sections of women. That is a serious shortcoming resulted from ignorance of our Party's intentions. For the functionaries of the Women's Union to carry out their honourable mission well they should make a deep study of the great leader's policy before anything else and push their work forward.

As taught by her, not a few defects could be found in the activities of the Women's Union organizations in those days.

Some of union officials, being separated from the broad masses of women, were conducting their work only with housewives and intellectual women, and did not admit the working women into union organizations under the plea of their "illiteracy". This did not accord with the mass character of the Women's Union.

She made the union functionaries understand clearly that working women and other patriotic women of all walks of life who love the country and democracy except a handful of reactionary elements should be embraced in the Women's Union organizations and united firmly around the Party under the situation where the US imperialists, domestic reactionaries and factional elements were carrying out all sorts of machinations against the unity of our people.

Thus, she clarified the principled matters in the building of Women's Union so that the union functionaries might find their way into factories, farm villages, fishing hamlets and

residential quarters to unite the working women, and initiated the functionaries into the detailed method and style of work to help them do their work well with working women.

Saying if they should smarten themselves up and behave arrogantly without being humble, the masses would not give attentive ear to their words however good those might be nor follow them, she stressed that there should be no Women's Union functionary divorced from the masses.

Listening to her, they were seized with deep remorse and came to know clearly what they should correct in their work.

Afterwards, she found herself among the women in Pyongyang City and other various localities and set the pattern for this work.

One day she made her appearance at Songyo-dong, Songyo District, Pyongyang City.

Sitting knee to knee with the women there she gave gracious care to their work and life.

They asked her if women could be called "people" and whether it was true or not that eloquent ability was necessary for joining the Women's Union.

In answer to their artless question, she explained the situation of the liberated fatherland, the position and role of women in the building of a new country as well as the necessity of embracing all women in the Women's Union organizations.

That day she met a woman particularly and advised her to take the lead in the work for rallying the women in Songyo-dong while giving her the detailed instructions as to the tasks to be carried out and the method of work.

One month later, that woman informed her that a Women's Union organization was formed in Songyo-dong embracing almost all women there.

Even after that Comrade Kim Jong Suk frequented there to guide the Women's Union activity and gave valuable teachings to the union officials.

She also paid deep attention to the guidance in the work of local Women's Union organizations.

Thus, the Korean Democratic Women's Union rapidly developed into a powerful mass body—a revolutionary and militant organization with the united membership of broad masses of women in a little more than 2 or 3 years after national liberation. Such success was thanks to the energetic guidance and splendid activities of Kim Jong Suk, an indomitable revolutionary fighter, who made her best exertions upholding the intention of the great leader.

Women hold a demonstration in support of the proclamation of the Law on the Equality of the Sexes (1946)

— Excerpts from Speeches Made at the International Seminar on the Juche Idea Held between Last April 14 to 16 in New Delhi —

Juche Idea and Man

I have been paying deep attention to the Juche idea of President Kim Il Sung, great thinker and theoretician.

Today Korea thoroughly puts into practice the principle of independence in politics, self-support in the economy and self-reliance in national defence. This is borne by the adamant maintenance of the Juche idea. It underlies all the lines and policies pursued by the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Republic.

As the Juche idea is thoroughly translated into the realities of Korea, its correctness is verified in all fields of life as a stern historical fact.

Therefore, with no excellent power of expression and eloquence one can touch upon all the aspects of this idea through his one or two lectures or speeches. Nor can one give the whole aspect of this idea that is embodied brilliantly in all the realms of life.

For that reason, I am going to refer only to one aspect—the relation between the Juche idea and man.

The Juche idea, proceeding from the philosophical principle that man is master of everything and decides everything, attaches greatest importance to man and builds up a theory on the basis of man's role.

This principle was clarified by teacher President Kim Il Sung with his words, **"The basis of the Juche idea is that man is the master of all things and the decisive factor in everything."**

Only man can conquer the force of nature and control everything of nature and society.

Accordingly man is the most precious and powerful being.

Man has been transforming nature and society with an aim to meet his vital needs.

By throwing light on such a close relation between man and nature, the Juche idea shows man's actual role in getting his worth and the relevant development of life as the master of nature and society.

From this point of view the Juche idea demands that work with men go ahead of all other work.

As is taught by the Juche idea, man tranforms nature and society and carries on the revolution and construction.

The Juche idea makes it clear that the three revolutions, ideological, technical and cultural, should be pushed forward to realize the above-mentioned aim.

The Juche idea clarifies that among them precedence should be given to the ideological revolution that is basic in the work of training up a Juche-type man—an independent and competent man who can successfully transform nature and society in the revolutionary and creative spirit.

The ideological revolution becomes a means of arming men firmly with the Juche idea and of cultivating their independence and creativeness.

With the thorough embodiment of the Juche idea, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) performed a miracle in the upbringing of men.

In Korea prime attention is paid to work with men, and it is carried forward in the ascendant. While giving definite priority to the ideological revolution that forms the main facet in rearing independent human beings according to the requirement of the Juche idea, Korea energetically promotes, at the same time, the technical and cultural revolutions.

The DPRK has succeeded in making enormous achievements and bringing about fundamental changes in all domains of social life. The Korean people are clear of subordination, indignity and backwardness, and Korea has turned into a big revolutionary and fraternal harmonious family whose entire members work under the slogan, "One for all and all for one."

The DPRK set up a most advanced socialist system in her land and converted once a poor and backward country into a developed industrial state with self-supporting national economy, brilliant national culture and strong defence power.

As was made clear through the current seminar and preceding many other forums, they tell that it is natural for the world to take in-

Juche Idea Is an Idea Giving People Most Scientific and Revolutionary Outlook on the World

The establishment of the Juche-oriented outlook on the world, the most correct world outlook, is one of the prominent contributions of respected President Kim Il Sung to the history of human ideology and to the liberation struggle of mankind.

The Juche-oriented world outlook holds the central position in the ideological system of Kimilsungism.

The Juche idea constitutes the ideological and theoretical foundation of the revolutionary theory and guiding method of Kimilsungism.

All theories of Kimilsungism and its essential contents come from the Juche idea.

Therefore, the correct understanding of Kimilsungism requires gaining a comprehension of the Juche idea and the world outlook of Juche.

For grasping the essence, contents and originality of the world outlook of Juche, it is important to correctly comprehend, first of all, the philosophical principle on which this world outlook is based.

The world outlook of Juche established by esteemed President Kim Il Sung takes its stand and starting point on the philosophical principle that man is master of all things and decides everything.

Underlying the ideological system of Kimilsungism this principle teaches that man is dominant in his relationship with the world and that man must take an independent attitude toward his surroundings.

The Juche idea gives positive proof of the fact that man, as an independent and creative social being, has an ability to transform nature and society, that is, the ability to decide everything.

The decisive role of man arises from his inexhaustible creative faculty.

Proceeding from the fundamental requirement that the masses of people must be the genuine master of nature and society, they become the master of their own destiny and motive force of historical development.

The masses of people have come to demand their independence, and the Juche idea has supplied a revolutionary answer to this demand. The Juche idea furnishes the scientific and revolutionary world outlook.

The Juche idea has enabled them to reform nature and society successfully by their revolutionary and conscious activities.

The philosophical principle of the Juche idea has dispelled the reactionary world outlooks which served for exploitation and oppression of the popular masses.

Respected President Kim Il Sung expounded that man is an independent and creative social being who is the master of everything and decides everything.

President Kim Il Sung taught:

"By scientifically enunciating the position and role of man in the world, the Juche idea provides one with the only correct outlook on nature and society and with a powerful weapon to cognize and transform the world."

The preceding world outlook of the working classes placed emphasis on the relations of production and technico-economical development.

Comrade Kim Il Sung attached the greatest importance to people before anything else. Nature has been conquered in the service of human welfare by man who is the most precious being in the world because he has scientific cognition.

The world outlook of Juche inspires the working masses powerfully to the struggle by imbuing them with a thought that they can hew out their destiny only through their own creative activity and efforts.

It is beyond all precedents that man won such a high position as a creative and independent social being, the master of the world and moulder of his own destiny.

The Juche idea has been translated into reality by the heroic Korean people under the wise guidance of Comrade Kim Il Sung, and received by the progressive peoples fighting for independence. The Juche idea is sure to achieve a triumph.

Our delegation from Costa Rica expresses a firm support to the Juche idea, and will make a deeper study of it and propagate and materialize it to advance our people's cause of liberation.

We extend our hearty congratulations to the 67th birthday of Marshal Kim Il Sung.

Long live the Juche idea!

Long live President Kim Il Sung!

We reverentially wish Comrade Kim Il Sung a long life and good health.

Professor JUAN RAFAEL ESPINOSA,
Teacher of the Social Science Faculty of the National College, Costa Rica

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terest in the Juche idea and to highly extol President Kim Il Sung, founder of the Juche idea.

Viewed from the angle of the Juche idea, I believe firmly that the reunification of Korea will emancipate the south Koreans from all sorts of domination, subordination, humiliation and backwardness, and bring them happiness and prosperity. Therefore, we actively support the DPRK in its strivings to reunify the divided country under the leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea and President Kim Il Sung, fighter.

Now the world people are learning from the Juche idea regarding it as the guiding principle in the struggle for mankind and independence.

Long live President Kim Il Sung, founder of the Juche idea, great teacher and leader!

HUSSEIN HAMDAN, Professor of Laws at the Beirut Arab University, Lebanon

At a meeting hall of the international seminar on the Juche idea held in New Delhi, India

"THE PARTY, THE PEOPLE AND THE ARMY MUST ALL STUDY!"

The slogan "The Party, the people and the army must all study!" advanced by the Workers' Party of Korea requires the entire working people to study harder and raise their politico-theoretical and technico-practical level remarkably.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung taught:

"We must see that under the slogan of 'The Party, the people and the army must all study!' a revolutionary habit of study is established throughout the nation and that all members of society, young and old, study and study hard."

Our Party's militant slogan of "The Party, the people and the army must all study!" echoes the profound wishes of the great leader to train them as genuine revolutionaries, competent and talented builders of socialism in conformity to the demand of our developing reality, and it is also permeated with his high expectation and warm love for our people.

As a requirement of the Juche idea, this slogan is an important condition of success for our revolutionary tasks.

As taught by the Juche idea, the popular masses are the master of the revolution and construction and the motive force of the historical development. However, they can not become such spontaneously.

For the popular masses to be the master of the historical development and the powerful beings capable of pushing forward the revolution and construction, they should possess a firm revolutionary world outlook, knowledge and ability needful to transform nature and society. That is possible only when they carry on studies diligently with a revolutionary habit of learning.

Realities of today where the revolution and construction are ceaselessly developing in depth require intensified studying as never before.

Our revolution has reached a new higher stage, and the three revolutions—ideological, technical and cultural—are really getting into their stride.

The whole country is making a vigorous advance for a high goal of the Second Seven-Year Plan with Juche-orientation, modernization and scientification of the national economy as the principal task.

These circumstances demand that our working people lift their politico-theoretical level and equip themselves with the latest science and technology.

A great store of knowledge enables revolutionaries to smoothly settle the difficult problems arising in the revolution and discharge well their duty as the master of revolution.

That's why every working people of our country pursues his studies saving every bit of time for cultivating his capability of carrying on revolution constantly as long as he lives.

Our country has a good educational system and facilities that enable everyone to study to his heart's content only if he makes his mind to do so.

Students and pupils occupy one third of our population, and they learn under the regular educational system.

In 1942 when our country was under Japanese imperialist colonial rule, there was no college in the northern half of Korea except some primary schools and middle schools.

Today, however, 162 universities and colleges are found, together with countless senior middle schools and primary schools for the rising generation.

Our officials and working people, outside the regular educational system, are studying in keeping with their standards under various forms of the study-while-working system.

According to the Party's policy, officials and working people study obligatorily every Saturday afternoon and for two hours everyday and attend a lecture meeting every Wednesday.

Besides, officials raise their political level and improve their practical ability through their studies at full-time schools for one month every year, thereby training themselves into competent cadres of the Party and the state.

Our working people had been shut out of learning due to the Japanese imperialist aggressors' policy of keeping the Korean people in ignorance. After national liberation, however, they abolished their illiteracy and finished the working people's schools, and are now endeavouring to raise their standard of a general knowledge and technical knowhow at the working people's senior middle schools.

Mothers' schools are set up at factories and rural areas for the political study and cultural education of the women's union members. The mothers' schools are run by the Women's Union organizations.

In addition to technical study under the regular educational system, there is another well-regulated system of learning technology and skills conducted on Tuesday as the day of technical learning.

All of working people enrich the knowledge of science and technology and improve their skills at the technical study circles which are organized according to the occupational condition and feature.

The entire working people are student-producers and workers on the job.

There is no working people without obtaining education and everyone goes on with his studies all through life while working.

This is a pride of our country and a great happiness of our people.

In our country today, a revolutionary habit of study is firmly established throughout the Party, the people and the army, which helps successful accomplishment of the task of intellectualization of the whole society, and the entire working people are fulfilling their duty as the master of the revolution and construction.

☆ ☆ ☆

A NOTE

Yesterday a Salesgirl, Today a Manager of Department Store

It is an affair of common occurence in our country today that a salesgirl of an unknown rural shop has become the manager of a big department store, a spinning worker the director of a large plant, and a farmer the chairman of a co-op farm management board.

Let us give an illustrative instance from Kim Ok Sim, Manager of the Pyongyang First Department Store.

The following is her note.

* * *

Until 20 years ago I was a salesgirl of a small rural shop far away from Pyongyang. But

Manager Kim Ok Sim (second from the right) has frequent discussions with saleswomen about the state of selling

I am working now as the manager of a big department store situated in the centre of the capital.

I owe it to the warm solicitude of the fatherly leader.

In June 1958 a plenary meeting of the Party Central Committee was held, and discussed the problem of developing commercial work, too.

I was to make a speech at the meeting.

In the course of grasping the actual conditions of commercial work in preparation for this meeting, the fatherly leader came to know that our shop employees did their job well among the farmers and won popularity. He wanted to hear a story of their experience; that's why I took the platform. It was the first time for me to attend such a grand meeting. So, I could not speak properly at the start though referring to my notes that I had made all through night.

Then, the fatherly leader smiled, saying:

"Comrade Ok Sim! You need not make much of formality. Please lay it aside and speak as you did. Time is enough."

I related what we did:

"Besides those goods supplied by the state our saleswomen produced various articles of daily use suitable for the realities of the countryside on our own and sold them to people. We didn't merely waite for purchasers but peddled goods among the farmers."

In the midst of my talks, the fatherly leader said:

"Comrade Ok Sim has performed her work better than anyone else. You are well aware of the principle of socialist trade. I will drop in at your shop without fail."

That moment I felt a lump in my throat, gripped by a boundless emotion. (The fatherly leader said he would call at our rural shop though he is busy with state affairs. What a great glory it is!)

Fifteen days later, that is, on June 21, he visited our Ryongyon Shop.

"Comrade Ok Sim! How are you?"

He grasped my hand and looked at the surroundings of the shop and its building. Saying it was a good building for a rural shop with clean environs, he stepped inside the shop.

He opened in person a refrigerator made by us in conformity with rural conditions. It was filled with sweetfish, shad and grey mullet caught in the West Sea and the Chongchon River.

He was much delighted at sight of them and said it was natural for the people to praise you for selling fresh fishes in the height of summer.

The fatherly leader always takes great pleasure in the work done for the people. That day he gave the following earnest teaching:

"Trade workers should not use their brains only for the sale of goods but put themselves in buyer's place. You must take a motherly interest in the people's living."

Bearing his lofty intention in my heart, I gave full play to my wisdom to do my duty as salesgirl.

We inquired into the varieties and the quantity of the villagers' demand and carried on order sale and itinerant trade. Besides we stimulated factories to production of commodities pleasing the fancy of the villagers.

We furnished our shop with a big cellar and refrigerator to supply fresh vegetables, fruits and various fishes to people in all seasons.

One day an unlooked-for event took place for me.

The Party entrusted to me an important duty of manager of the Pyongyang First Department Store.

Though I lacked in expert knowledge and experience, I set to work with a determined mind to be a real servant of people.

On December 15 that year the fatherly leader made a visit to the department store where I was carrying on a new task.

He encouraged me, saying that my job must be harder than that of the Ryongyon Shop but it would not be impossible if I should learn.

Afterwards he personally dispatched functionaries to teach me how to work and solve knotty problems. Not only that, he sent me to a commercial college to obtain professional knowledge.

I, together with the business staff, did as I was told by the fatherly leader, and won official commendations on several occasions and gained the honourable title of Chollima for our department store.

Moreover, I was awarded the title of Labour Hero, the highest honour of the citizens of the Republic.

To return this trust, I am striving with all my strength to discharge the motherlike responsibility for the people's livelihood.

"Our villages are rich and beautiful. On the hills at the back there are orchards with rows of tiled houses in the foothill. There is a flowing brook in foreground and tractors chug through the fields crisscrossed by brimful irrigation ditches. Truly our countryside is like a beautiful picture scroll."

KIM IL SUNG

At a Blessed Land

Come and see my village, please.

Modern tall buildings line the straight paved road; hundreds of dwelling houses stand in rows at the wooded foot of Mt. Wangjae-san; and tractors and autotrucks run through the fields crisscrossed by irrigation ditches. The picturesque sight would kindle your deep emotions, I believe, because it must be beyond the stretch of your imagination that such a modern rural village can be found even in the northern extremity far from Pyongyang, the capital of our country, though such a "rural town" is quite a few in our country.

It is a matter of course. Wondering at the drastic change of my village where ramshackle cottages straggled around before national liberation, I myself often cannot believe my eyes although I have been living in this locality for over 50 years now.

It still remains with me as a vivid memory: When I was eleven years old, my family wandered about to find a means of living groaning under the oppression by the Japanese imperialist aggressors, and at last settled down here, the borderland of our country.

Our village was thus formed by those wandering people who had intended to drift into a foreign land at first but made their home here like us being reluctant to leave the fatherland.

They lived in the shabby caverned huts or straw-thatched hovels built leaning against the bank of the Tuman-gang River, and subsisted on barnyard grass and millet which they raised on a hillside and produced a scanty crop, because the plain fields were too swampy and dampish to sow seed.

Clad in rags, they suffered from hunger and died of diseases.

So, schooling for children was beyond their powers.

The villagers, however, had a unique pride: they boasted of this locality permeated with an

A partial view of Wangjaesan Co-op Farm village

Agrarian Reform and Women's Union

The anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, organized and led by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, came out victorious and the cause of national liberation was won. This opened up a hopeful avenue for our people to build a new Korea.

As soon as he established the Party and the state power, the great leader set forth the task of carrying out an anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution in the northern half of the Republic.

Agrarian reform came out as the primary task.

The question of land acquired a particular importance in our country which was a colonial agrarian country, with an overwhelming peasant majority.

In the northern half of Korea at the time of liberation (August, 1945), the landlords, who accounted for only 4% of all the rural households, owned 58.2% of the total arable land, while the preponderant majority of peasants possessed either no land or only small plots.

The feudal landownership forced the peasants into poverty and offered a great obstruction to social progress as a whole.

Therefore, only by carrying out agrarian reform before anything else was it possible to wipe out the economic foothold of the reactionary forces rooted in the rural areas, liberate the peasantry from feudal exploitation, and to open up a broad road for the fast development of the agricultural productive forces. At the same time the agrarian reform was indispensable for fortifying the socio-economic foundations for the democratization of all political, economical and cultural life in the country and for giving a strong impetus to the rehabilitation and development of the national economy.

The great leader banded the working masses firmly around the Party and wisely steered their united strength towards a successful accomplishment of the agrarian reform.

Thus, the historic Agrarian Reform Law was proclaimed on March 5, 1946.

In hearty response to the great leader's intention, the new-born Korean Democratic Women's Union, which was formed in November 1945, made a considerable contribution to the agrarian reform together with other working people's organizations.

The women's union rallied the broad sections of rural women into its organization and united them solidly around the Party and the people's government thereby getting them to take an active part in the agrarian reform.

The great leader President Kim Il Sung taught:

"The activities of the social organizations such as the trade unions, the Democratic Youth League and the Women's Union, also played a great part in enhancing the political awakening of the peasantry."

Political awakening of the peasant women who held the absolute majority of our female population in those days—it was a matter of very importance in the successful agrarian reform.

The women's union strived first of all to acquaint the peasant women with the main contents and correctness of the agrarian reform policy formulated by the great leader.

The women's union explained them plainly that according to the Agrarian Reform Law land formerly owned by the Japanese imperialists, pro-Japanese elements, traitors to the nation and vicious landlords should be confiscated without compensation and distributed free to the landless and land-poor peasants, and women would also receive land like men.

Thus, women came to have a full understanding that such an agrarian reform was the most fair and thoroughgoing one in conformity with the centuries-old aspiration of the peasants and the demand of our developing revolution.

Furthermore the women's union led the peasant women to take an active part as masters in the work of effecting the agrarian reform.

What was important in this work was to organize and mobilize women to the struggle to crush the resistance and the insidious manoeuvrings of the hostile classes.

The agrarian reform accompanied a sharp class struggle.

The terrorists and saboteurs who were sent by the US imperialists that occupied south Korea, and their henchmen, as well as the evil landlords who were being deprived of their land, engaged in vicious intrigues to frustrate the agrarian reform.

Launching wicked propaganda of hurling calumny and slander at the agrarian reform, they made threats against some peasants who lacked in political awakening, with intimidating words that if Syngman Rhee (the chieftain of the south Korean puppet regime later) took power in the future, peasants would be robbed of their land again and that peasants would fail to do farm work without landlords.

What was worse, the enemies perpetrated without hesitation all kinds of subversive activities such as armed assaults and setting fire on rural committees, and assassination against the patriotic farmers.

To cope with this situation, the women's union laid bare the vicious manoeuvres of the class enemies to baffle the agrarian reform and thus helping the peasant women to gain a clear understanding of the nature and craftiness of exploiting classes and nurse more intense hatred against the enemies.

As a result, women took an active part in the struggle against enemies with a high degree of class insight and vigilance.

Then, the women's union gave active assistance to the work of the rural committees (executive units taking charge of the agrarian reform which were organized with poor peasants and hired farm labourers.)

At that time there were over 11,500 rural committees in the northern half of the Republic.

To render assistance to the rural committees in their villages, the women's union members kept guard voluntarily, while taking part in the work for land survey, registration and distribution.

Thanks to the wise guidance of the great leader, the agrarian reform was completed in a little over 20 days.

As a result, 1,000,000 *chongbo* (hectare) of land was confiscated and distributed free to 720,000 peasant households.

The peasant women, who had groaned under double and treble oppression and exploitation for a long time, became masters of the country and owners of land.

Under the leadership of the Party, the women's union went on with its work to encourage the peasant women, now real masters of the land, to devote all their energies to the agricultural production for the sake of their own happiness and the prosperity of the country, upholding the Party's slogan "Greet the first spring of liberated Korea with increased production, don't let even an inch of land lie idle!"

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immortal history that the great leader President Kim Il Sung had crossed the Tuman-gang River to carry on a revolutionary activity in Mt. Wangjae-san in March 1933 at the early period of his anti-Japanese armed struggle.

Even in those bad days when the dark clouds of national ruin were hanging over our homeland, we waited for the day of national liberation with hope and conviction.

At last the new spring of national liberation came to this farthest land.

Thanks to the favour of the great leader, our squalid huts changed into tiled houses and marsh into paddy field; we got electric and water supply and children were able to attend schools singing songs. I, a once-illiterate, came to read newspaper and magazine fluently.

So, we had nothing to desire more.

And yet, a dreamlike news reached our village in May 1974.

According to it, the Party took a measure to build a new modern farm village here stressing that our village people, who had led the bitterest life before national liberation, should enjoy the greater happiness than anybody else.

"Granny, did you hear it?"

"They say our village shall become like a town."

All the village talked of it and nothing else.

Everybody was pleased at the news. Before long young builders came to our village in hearty response to the call of the Party.

Summer flew by, and autumn followed, when "the Study Hall of Comrade Kim Il Sung's Revolutionary Ideas" was erected in the center of the village, and a hall of culture, shops, a three-storeyed school, nursery, kindergarten and village people's hospital made their appearances.

On the same day the farmers of our village moved into new modern dwelling houses which were built thanks to the warm gracious care of the great leader and the Party.

That day the whole village was exhilarated like a holiday, singing and dancing. Leading my grandson by the hand, I entered my several-roomed house equipped with every cultural and sanitary arrangements. But I made a sudden halt, for the memories of pre-liberation days returned to me....

Well, any visitors to our village, don't forget to drop in at my home, please. I would serve them with whitish apricot and pear, special product of this locality, as well as meals of fresh sort of rice which is harvested in a newly reclaimed land.

Moreover I would give a detailed account of unbounded happiness and joy our farmers enjoy in the blessed land under the benign care of the great leader and the glorious Party.

CHOE HYONG SUN
Wangjaesan-ri, Onsong County,
North Hamgyong Province

A Sunlit Blissful House

The sun rises above the horizon with rolling waves and fishing boats are receding from the view. Morning breaks in the Combined Farm of Unggi County situated at the northeastern tip of our country.

A day's life in this locality seems to begin from kindergarten and nursery.

At the hour for their parents' going to work, the May 16 Kindergarten is noisy with laughing and singing voice of the children.

A granny came into the yard of the kindergarten taking her granddaughter by the hand. The little one ran to a swing after making a bow. And yet, the granny remains motionless for a good while unaware of the passage of time.

HER CHILDHOOD

"Granny, what are you watching so eagerly?" I asked her dubiously.

"Please take a good look at the children over there. How dear they are", she said.

While feasting her eyes on the romping children, she related her story as follows:

Her childhood flowed away on a small battered boat. Unggi was an obscure fishing hamlet in the period of Japanese imperialist colonial rule.

Those people who left their home villages in search of a means of living drifted to this farthest land and kept body and soul together by reclaiming bogs and reed fields while catching fish.

Children found themselves in the most miserable state. Majority of the hamlet children died of hunger before coming into bloom.

In her early days this granny had to dig out shell-fishes at the seashore and pluck out marine plants to appease her hunger far from gambolling under the care of her mother.

Her two cheeks and hands were chapped owing to the strong seawind and ceaseless tears, but there was no one to take care of her.

However, the times have changed completely. Her granddaughter, nay, all children of this hamlet are growing up merrily in good health, enjoying only joy and pleasure.

The granny added that the greater the happiness of the children becomes, the more she looks back upon her past days full of grudge. It moved me to strong emotions.

BLESSED CHILDREN

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung taught:

"In our country the children are educated and brought up at state and public expense, with the result that all children enjoy completely equal state and social benefits, irrespective of the occupations of their parents and the quantity and quality of the labour they put in."

One can find the biggest and brightest house at the scenic place in the out-of-the-way seaside of the northeastern extremity of the country 500 km away from Pyongyang, the capital: It is none other than the kindergarten building for children.

Guided by the head of the kindergarten I entered first into an education room.

In order to carry out the wishes of the Party for accustoming children to collective organized life and discipline from infancy, this kindergarten, too, is well furnished with various facilities such as wall picture, magic-lantern apparatus, visual aids conducive to their education in accordance with age and mental peculiarity.

I went round sleeping room, dining room, music room and medical office one after another.

Everywhere I could see with my own eyes those nurture facilities, which were of service to the upbringing of the kindergarten children in a cultured and scientific way and in close combination of intellectual education with physical training from their tenderest years.

In the music room kindergartener Pak Chun Wol was giving lesson in dancing.

I heard from her that every child of this kindergarten was a good singer and talented dancer and could play more than one kind of musical instrument. So, they give frequent performances to the workers of fishery station to inspire them to further efforts for good catch of fish.

At the medical office I came to know that the average stature of the children here is 3 cm taller and body-weight 500 or 600 gram heavier than the state standard figure respectively.

The Combined Farm provides children first of all with various subsidiary food such as cow's milk, vegetable, marine products, meat, eggs and fruits.

The sons and daughters of the fishermen had been forsaken and given the worst treatment before national liberation. But now their children grow up in a sunlit blissful house with nothing to envy in the world.

Thanks to the loving care of the great leader and the Party similar nurseries and kindergartens can be found in every nook and corner of our country so long as there are women and children. And there our 3,500,000 children are all growing happily and healthily at the state expense.

Li Jong Gil

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung examines a bumper crop of maize at the Oeso Cooperative Farm, Kaechon County

At Field Visited by Bumper Harvest

Co-op farmers rejoice over a rich harvest at the field honoured by a visit from the great leader

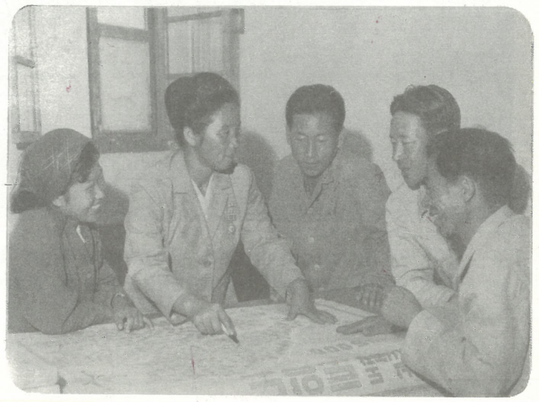
—At the Oeso Cooperative Farm, Kaechon County—

While guiding the work in agricultural domain of South Pyongan Province in August last, the great leader President Kim Il Sung visited the Oeso Cooperative Farm, Kaechon County.

He went to the maize field of Workteam No.5 of the farm and there he was well informed on the state of affairs in maize farming. He was pleased to see that an unusually good harvest of maize is expected as a result of successful farming done in accordance with the requirements of the Juche-based farming method.

After making an inquiry into the actual conditions of farming including rice crop of the workteam, the great leader taught how to have a better harvest in many ways.

The entire co-op farmers there are now filled with a firm determination to bring about a new turn in agricultural production by thoroughly implementing the on-the-spot instructions of the great leader President Kim Il Sung.



They discuss the farming plan for next year beforehand. (Second from the left is Labour Hero Kung Ok Hui, Chairman of the Oeso Cooperative Farm Management Board.)

Kung Ok Hui imparts scientific farming method to a farmer

An abundant crop of fruit

Co-op farmers study Juche-based farming method in the hall for the propagation of the knowledge of agricultural science and technology built at each workteam

Rice crop, too, is plentiful

Massproduction of High-quality Consumer Goods

Everywhere in our country, there are a great number of modern factories of central and local industries for consumer goods.

Now our country wholly meets the demands of the people for necessaries of life with homemade goods.

Many of the said factories are run by our women in the capacity of managerial staff (director), technicians (engineer or assistant engineer) or workers.

—AT THE SUNCHON SHOEMAKING FACTORY—

Production of stylish shoes is boosted

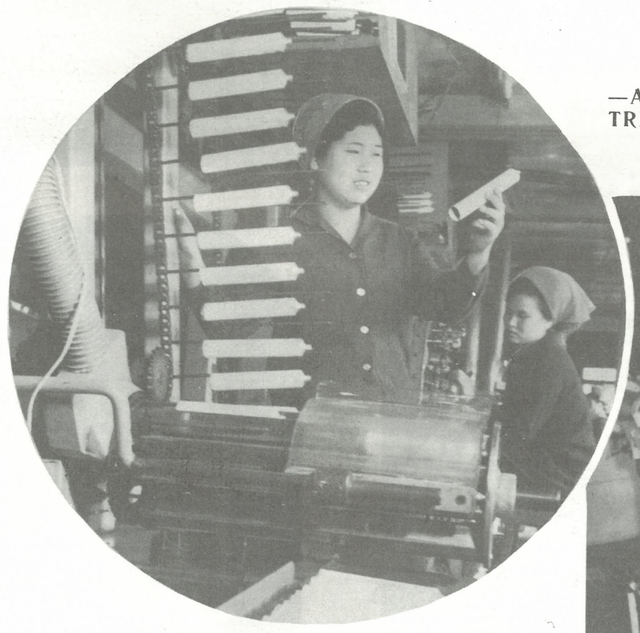
Shoemakers always exert themselves to raise the quality of products

Cutters introduce a new method of cutting

Beautiful and useful enameled wares are produced in large quantities

Painters decorate wares with pretty patterns

—AT THE SINUIJU ENAMELED IRONWARE FACTORY—



Large-scale production of good tooth-paste

—AT THE SINUIJU TOILETRIES FACTORY—

Production of toilet soap

Babies' Palace in Iron-Producing City

—At the Songrim Babies' Palace—

Photo shows a fine nursery in Songrim City, the seat of the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex, one of our biggest iron-producing centres.

Every morning women commit their babies to the nursery and step toward their work place in a happy mood.

The nursery is well equipped with nursing and upbringing establishments to grow the babies in a scientific and sanitary way.

The nursery staff are all women ranging from its head and doctors to teachers. They are also its managerial staff.

In any places of our country where there live women and children, you can find nurseries and kindergartens the number of which totals upward of 60,000. And 3.5 million children are growing there.

Outer view of the nursery

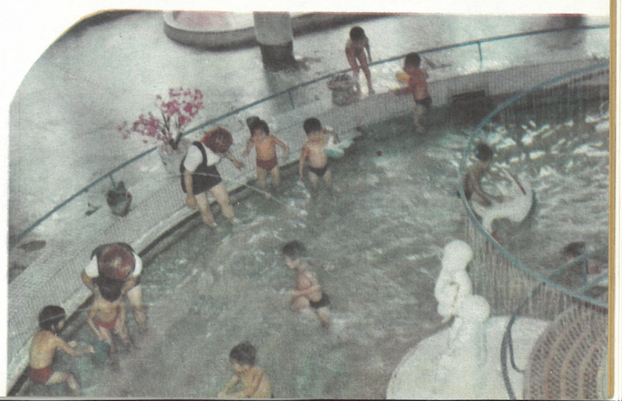
Children learn from the childhood of Father Marshal Kim Il Sung

On the morning of the nursery

A nursery teacher fresh from college

An indoor pool for children

Children grow up in robust health under excellent nurturing conditions

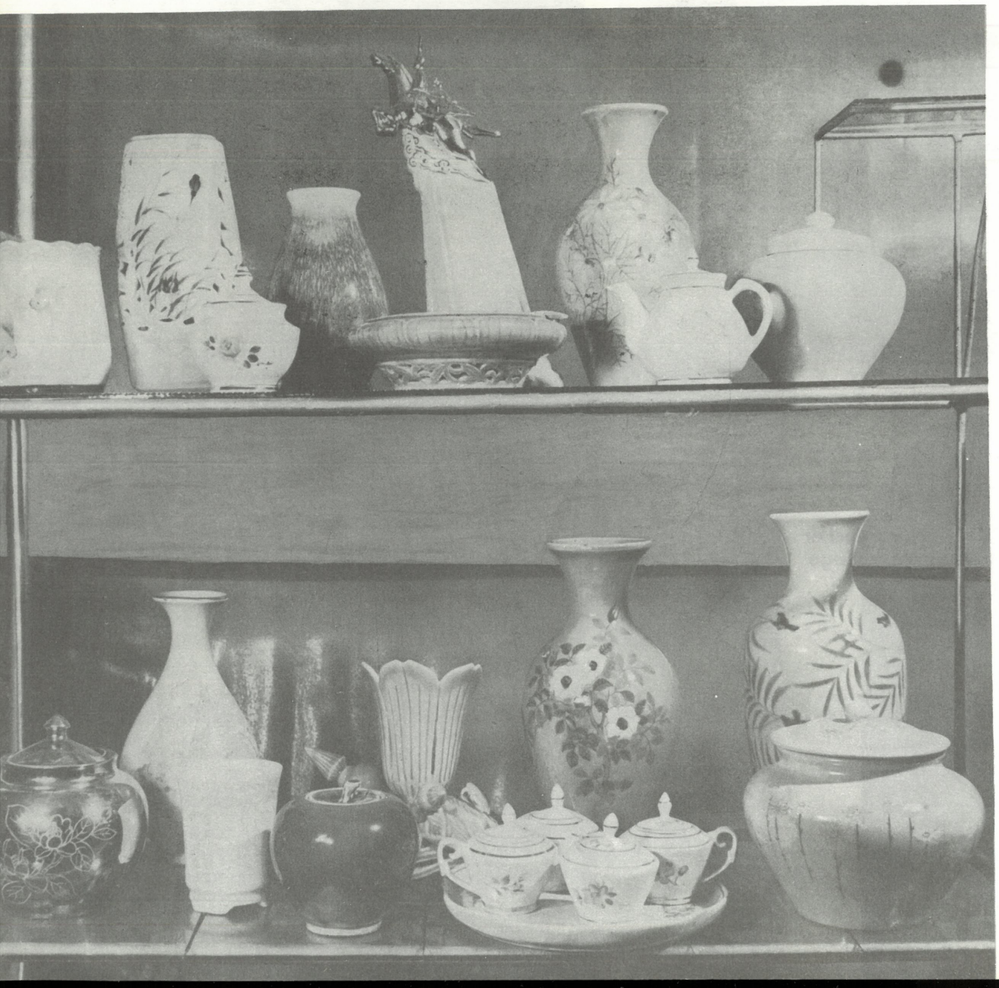


Beautiful Earthenwares

—At the Saenggiryong Ceramic-ware Factory—

New products are the outcome of their sincere research and efforts

Mouldering workers



Some of porcelains manufactured at the factory

"The railways are the country's arteries and the pilot of the national economy."

KIM IL SUNG

EVER-DEVELOPING ARTERY OF THE COUNTRY

A big stride has been made also in railway transport of our country that accomplished the historic task of socialist industrialization in 14 years (1957-1970) under the wise guidance of the great leader President Kim Il Sung.

Railway has found its way into all the places of our country including secluded mountainous region. Our electrification of railway is nearing completion with homemade electric engines.

On reflection, when many European countries were developing steam engines into diesel ones after the Industrial Revolution, the animal-carts made by our forefathers were jogging through narrow paths.

The Japanese imperialist aggressors occupied our country by force of arms in 1910, and constructed the railways only along the coast line and the regions of raw material resources with a purpose to rob her of rich natural resources and to fortify the foundation of their colonial rule.

It had nothing to do with our people's economic life, but it was used exclusively for a means of colonial plunder and aggression on the continent.

After national liberation, the great leader wisely led the struggle to put an end to the extreme colonial lop-sidedness and deformity of the railway transport and to lay an independent and modern railway.

In hearty response to the lofty intention of the great leader, the workers and technicians of the Kim Jong Tae Electric Locomotive Plant produced the first electric engine in only a year with their own efforts and technique.

On August 30, 1961, the great leader made a visit to the plant and expressed satisfaction with the first electric engine. Then he said:

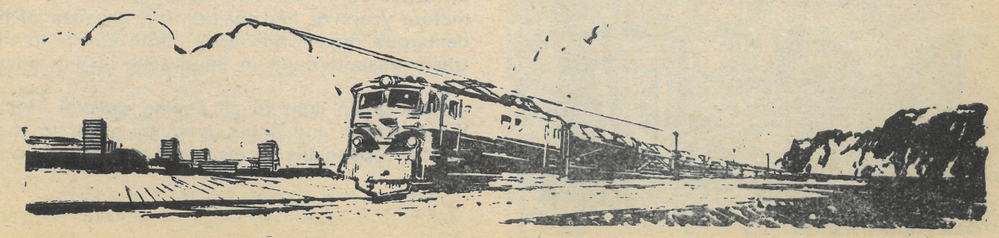
"We have made an electric engine without taking the trouble to make a steam engine. So, we have skipped over one stage, we should say. The steam engine was used during the Industrial Revolution, but the electric engine is for the era of communism. You have done a tremendous work. You have attained a high goal in our technical revolution."

The 18th Plenary Meeting of the 5th Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea held on June 15, 1979, discussed the problem to develop railway transport.

The plenary meeting stressed that only when transportation should be kept ahead to suit the demand of developing national economy, was it possible to further the socialist construction and fulfill the grand Second Seven-Year (1978-1984) Plan before the set time.

In active response to the Party's call to develop the transportation, the workers in this field and all other working people throughout the country are making strenuous endeavours.

Seen among them are our women workers who are reliably defending a post for the country's artery.



Master of Tongdok Station

Tongdok is a mountain station situated at the northeastern part of our country. Though small, it is an important station with a branch line leading to big mines and collieries.

Located at the foot of a high mountain ridge called sky-kissing Machonryong, the station is staffed with female workers.

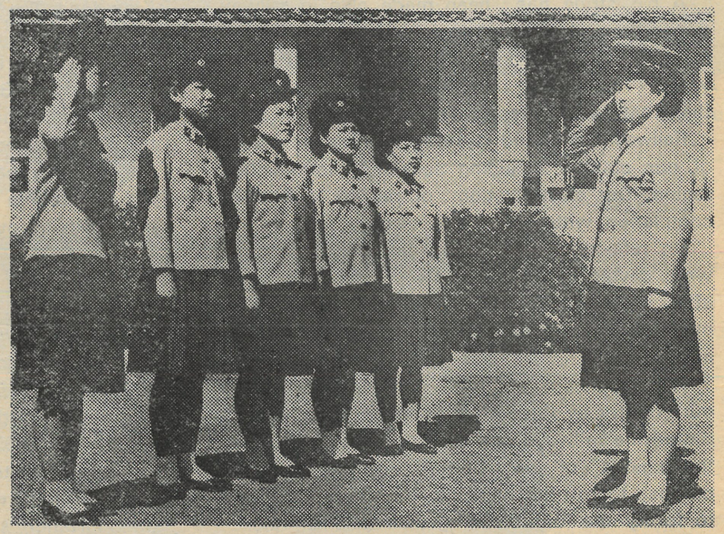
To their pride, they have ensured non-accident regular run for all the trains passing through the station for 16 years.

DISCIPLINE IS VITAL

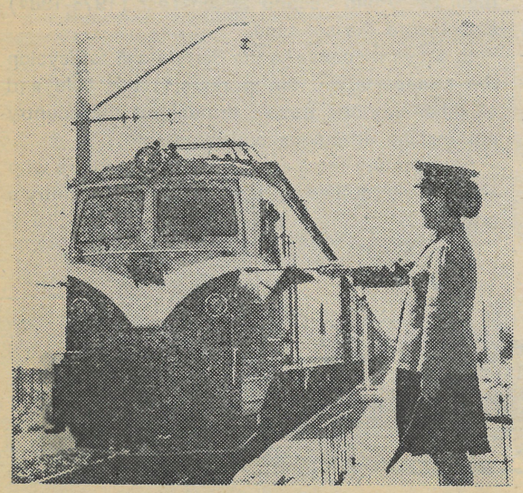
Usually they are on good terms with each other like a harmonious family. Once they assume duty, their discipline is as strict as that of a regular army.

In such a remote mountain hamlet, there is neither watcher, nor enforcer nor demander. But, being conscious of the fact that discipline is vital in railway, each of them accomplishes her duty faithfully.

At a changing time



For safe running on schedule at all time



GREEN LIGHT

From a distance a green light strikes the eye of engine driver passing by Tongdok Station. It is a clear go-ahead-signal given by Li Sun Son, operation-director.

She is the oldest member at this station. She is respected by all not merely because of her mature years or her position but because of her dexterous organizing ability with which to let trains pass through in good time in any adversity.

Ever green light to all engine drivers! This is the heartiest and finest greeting given to them by the dependable women station staff of Tongdok.

They make a constant endeavour to enhance their technical level

Youngest Daughter of Engineering Family

Technical study is one of their indispensable daily works. Li Sun Son always acts as a teacher.

Through untiring technical study, they came to acquaint themselves with the handling regulations for train operation and prepare themselves theoretically and practically. Last year all of them passed the examination for skill grade and attained a higher grade.

Before national liberation, only four engine drivers could be found among the Koreans. This is how harshly the Japanese imperialist devils prevented the Korean people from learning technique.

In those days it was beyond their imagination that women got specialized technical education.

Now the entire staff of this small mountain station are technicians or skilled workers.

Li Sun Son graduated from a railway college and shunter Chon Ae Suk is a highest grade-holder. O Myong Ok (left in the photo) who entered the service of this station 3 years ago, is the youngest daughter of an engineering family.

Her father is an engine driver, eldest brother a physics teacher of a college, elder brother an assistant agricultural engineer. Myong Ok finished a railway skilled workers' school in 1976. All but her mother are technicians or a skilled worker.

It is natural for all the employees of Tongdok Station to strive to raise their level of technical skill under the condition where railway modernization is in full swing in our country.

OPTIMISTIC LIFE IN MOUNTAINS

We are not for personal comforts,
Nor are we for bouquets gorgeous.
No one'll know our working wonders,
But we're proud of our work glorious.

... ...

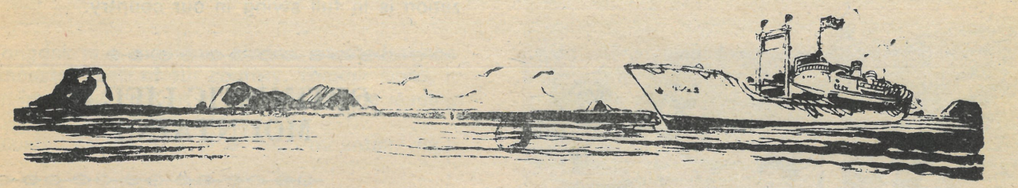
As a singing voice echoes clearly through mountains, their hearts swell with boundless emotion.

Though their home villages are different from each other, they work together on one and the same road of defending the country's artery firmly while bringing their youthful pride and joy of life into full bloom.

Their hearts are overflowing with a feeling of gratitude and loyalty to the great leader who has provided our people with today's true happiness and is leading them to a brighter future.

They tend pretty flowers in spare moments from their work

THEY RETURN TO SOCIALIST HOMELAND



Over 600,000 Korean compatriots live in Japan. This is attributed to the Japanese imperialists' 36-year long occupation of Korea and their vicious colonial rule there in bygone days.

Our compatriots were deprived of their country and native place by the Japanese imperialist aggressors and dragged off to Japan. And there they suffered their bitter fate of colonial slavery.

Then, the great leader President Kim Il Sung drove out the Japanese imperialists and liberated the country. He provided the Korean compatriots in Japan with the proud national rights of overseas citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Not only that. Entering into the earnest feelings of them who had longed for the homeland languishing in an alien land for a long time, the great leader opened the road of homecoming for them.

On December 16, 1959, the first repatriation ship carrying our fellow countrymen from Japan cast anchor at Chongjin of the fatherland.

As for the coming back of Korean compatriots from Japan to homeland that started since then, the publications of the capitalist countries wrote up as an "exodus of people from capitalism to socialism."

Today large numbers of people even in the developed capitalist countries leave their homeland one after another and wander abroad in search of livelihood. Why, then, do those compatriots in Japan who hail from south Korea return to the northern half of the Republic?

The reason is that only our socialist state founded by the great leader President Kim Il Sung can give genuine freedom and happiness to the working people.

The great leader President Kim Il Sung taught:

"We are guaranteeing all conditions for the repatriates to give full play to their talent and wisdom and live without any inconveniences."

Repatriated compatriots from Japan choose occupation according to their hope and skill and live happily without any worries.

Here are humble words of emotion expressed by some of them.

I Was Nestled in Bosom of Homeland for the First Time

A precious photo is carefully preserved in my home. That shows me under the benign arms of the great leader President Kim Il Sung for whom the people of the whole country have a reverence.

Each time I see this photo, I vividly reflect on the past days when I returned to the fatherland from Japan by the first repatriation ship 20 years ago.

Originally, the native place of my parents is in South Chungchong Province of south Korea.

They had picked up a scanty living by tenant farming. When the Japanese imperialists occupied Korea they found it hard to make the pot boil and left their home village and crossed the South Sea of Korea into Japan.

My parents would constantly talk about the miserable lot of a colonial nation in an alien land, troubling themselves about occupation, shelters and food. What was beyond their endurance, however, was the racial maltreatment and contempt.

Maybe, those people who were born and bred in the homeland cannot fully understand it. I was born in Japan and grew up hearing much of the fatherland from my childhood.

Longing for my dear country grew in my heart as often as I heard of the socialist fatherland under the leadership of the great leader where everyone was equally well off with no worry about food, clothing and housing, and about education and medical treatment.

Whenever I saw the films and pictorials of the fatherland, I could not repress my desire to go home, child as I was. So I could well imagine the feelings of my father and mother.

Toward the end of 1959 when I was at the age of ten, the glad news reached Japan that the great leader opened a sea route of repatriation.

My family wished to be the first to return home.

It was a clear day and the sea-gulls were flying circling above the rolling sea. The first repatriation ship crowded with the compatriots left Japan for their fatherland blowing a steam whistle.

We landed at Chongjin amidst the warm welcome of the people of the homeland, then came up to Pyongyang, the capital of revolution.

December 21, 1959 was an unforgettable day for me. I never dreamed to have the honour of presenting a bouquet to the fatherly leader at a grand welcome meeting for the first returnees.

My heart leapt with joy waiting for the glorious moment with a bunch of fragrant flowers in my hands.

After a while the enthusiastic cheers of *manse* (hurrah) went up rocking the meeting hall. There appeared the fatherly leader whom we were pining to see waking or sleeping.

I used to respectfully look up at his portrait in my house in Japan, and would greet him with a deep bow even in my dream.

Now, I rushed up towards the fatherly leader. With a beaming smile, he received my bouquet and embraced me in his warm bosom patting me gently on the back with his tender hand. Tears rolled down my cheeks.

Representatives of all walks of life presented a bunch of flowers to the fatherly leader and burst into tears burying their faces in his bosom. Stroking their shoulder, he said in the following vein:

We must gather in one place and live together.

In the past when the clouds of misfortune hung heavy over our country, we had to scatter against our will and live separated from each other. But today there is the fatherland where the people have power in their own hands with the Party leading it, and there is no reason whatever for us to live alienated from each other.

Deafening cheers changed by and by into crying with emotion.

At that time I came to know that excess of joy and happiness move people to tears.

It was natural for the returnees to feel a lump in their throat with deep emotion and delight of home-coming.

They had been subjected to all sorts of racial contempt and maltreatment in the foreign land of Japan, but now embraced in the warm bosom of the fatherland. It was none other than the benign bosom of the respected and beloved leader President Kim Il Sung.

Now I was taken to the warm heart of the fatherland for the first time since my birth. It was precisely the incomparably magnanimous and affectionate heart of the fatherly Marshal.

In the course of past 20 years under the loving care of the fatherly leader, I have graduated from Kim Il Sung University and grown up to be a full-fledged specialist in economics. My elder brothers and sisters also passed through universities or colleges, and all of us live happily with envy at nothing.

Through the 20 years of happiness and honour I have formed the unshakable conviction that the homeland of our people is the benevolent bosom of the fatherly leader.

Kim Bok Hye

A True Life

A Sleepless Night

It was May 1960 that I was embraced into the bosom of the dear homeland by the repatriation ship sent by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung. 19 years have passed since then, but I can never forget the emotional and joyful day when I took the first step in the homeland. What impressed me most was the moment of getting a new house.

An official who came out to greet us at Hamhung guided us into the new house through the entrance that put up my father's nameplate. We were bewildered. The house was well furnished with domestic articles such as bedding and kitchen utensils so that we could begin to lead a home life.

A girl fourteen years old then, I could not believe, at first, that the several-room house of modern style was ours. So I went out to look at the nameplate again in confirmation of it.

SOKDAMGUGOK VALLEY

Sokdamgugok Valley, a renowned scenic spot, is situated at Sokdam-ri Pyoksong County, South Hwanghae Province, some 20 kilometres from Haeju Harbor along the west coast of central Korea.

From olden times people have called this place Sokdamgugok. It means a valley where the clear water of the Kugok-chon stream flows round nine bends each of which has its own beauty distinct from others.

The great leader President Kim Il Sung said:

"Our country is not only abundant in natural resources, but in beautiful natural scenery. Everywhere we can see hills and mountains and clear rivers, presenting a picturesque view."

Sokdamgugok preserves its beauty all the year round. Starting from the first bend where a big rock shaped like a horse-hair hat rises in the thick of fragrant azalea in early spring, it stretches about 8 kilometres to the ninth bend, where queer-looking rocks and big trees are crowned with white snow in winter.

The fifth bend is most beautiful among the nine bends.

Here is a cliff having a height of more than 30 metres whose top is overgrown with armful pine trees, and below it flows crystal-clear water abundant in various kinds of fish.

A wooded plot stretches on the opposite side of the cliff, where fir, zelkova and gingko trees over 400 years old grow thickly, affording cool shade and birds chirp ceaselessly, which adds beauty to its landscape.

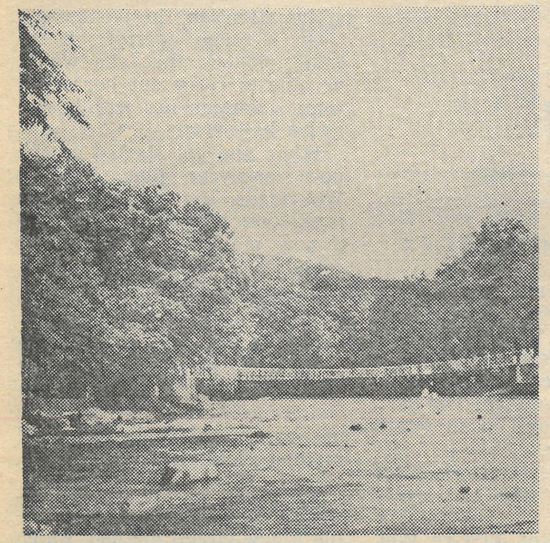
Preserved as it was before in the wood is an antique-looking school house called Sohyonsowon which was built in the latter half of the 16th century. In front of it, there stands a beautiful pavilion named Yogum.

Sohyonsowon and Yogum Pavilion show the beautiful and elegant style of architecture of our country and her people's distinguished talent of those days.

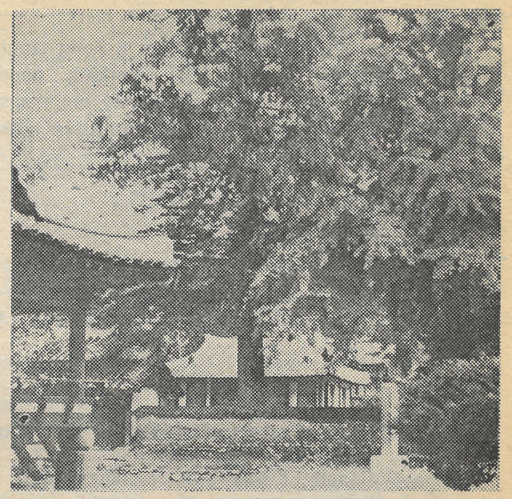
While making an on-the-spot guidance tour in September 1960, the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung said that as Sokdam had a fine natural beauty with the luxuriant growth of pine trees and the good water, a rest home should be built there for the working people.

Thanks to the warm loving care of the fatherly leader, a fine rest home was built at Sokdamgugok and a great number of holiday-makers from every nook and corner of the country spend pleasant days every year.

Such a rest home can be found in every scenic spot with fine landscape.



Scenic river and forest in Sokdamgugok Valley



Sohyonsowon, an ancient school house in Sokdamgugok

All of our holiday-makers take a rest free of charge. The expenses for holidays including fares both ways are at state expense. Ours is a paid leave system under which we receive living allowances during holidays.

That night brought back bitter memories of the days in Japan where we had lived in a hired room. It was a sleepless night for me, not to speak of my parents.

On the following day, a mistress of the middle school dropped in to see me.

"Yong Ok, from now on you should attend my school." So saying she produced textbooks, notebooks and many other school things out of her parcel.

My dear classmates helped me with my study and my class teacher made her calls at my home to give private lessons in mother tongue and alphabets.

Everyday life in the homeland let me know how blessed it was. Warm indeed was the bosom of the homeland.

Our socialist home country founded and led by the fatherly leader is dearest to me and cannot be bartered for anything else in the world, I think so all the more as time goes by.

At Sunny Factory

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung has taught:

"All our working people now lead a happy life, free from worries about food, clothing and employment."

I finished a middle school in July 1964. According to their wishes, some of my classmates continued studies at a higher level, and the rest went out into the society.

"What shall I do?"

So wondering, I recollected my mother's hard life in Japan.

I was at the age of eleven, I thought.

As my father, odd-jobber, fell ill, my mother had to find a means of earning a living.

She found a job at a Japanese-owned textile mill.

Mother left home early in one morning, but returned tired before noon.

She was chased out of the mill because of her failure of guaranty money and of her motherhood.

It is a capitalist society that one can not get a job however hard one wants to.

Now, I aspired to accomplish in the homeland such an unfilled desire of my mother's.

This is how I began to work at the Hamhung Woolen Mill.

My first work day came at last.

What caught first my eye was bright and cheerful female workers full of passion. They were distinctly different from the poverty-stricken women under hard toil in Japan.

Weavers who were working with dexterity in the sunny work places, a modernly-built nursery for working mother with babies, and shop, mess hall, rice-cooking factory and laundry for lessening women's domestic burden....

I made a firm determination to work at this worth-while place with devotion.

Afterwards I shortened the period of three months' apprenticeship to one month and took the loom. I strove to take a lesson from the experience of the skilled workers in their multi-machine tending campaign and attended the technical study without fail.

I contrived a new advanced method of going the round of machines to boost production four fold.

As a consequence, I carried out thrice the quantity of my assignment of the First Seven-Year Plan and finished that of the Six-Year Plan (1971-1976) within a year.

My Honour

The title of the Labour Hero is the highest honour for the citizens of the Republic. It was awarded me on May 25, 1972.

Really it was a dreamlike thing.

The fatherly leader set me, who had been a daughter of the ignored labourer without any rights in the alien land, up as the Labour Hero following a proud road for the country and people.

His solicitude and confidence were far more than I deserved.

It was not the only honour I had during my 15 years' service as a weaver.

I attended large meetings in the presence of the fatherly leader. And I had the honour of posing for a picture with him in 1974 when the National Industrial Congress was held. That day he, pressing my hand, encouraged me to do work hard as ever.

Looking up to the picture placed reverentially at my home, I have been spending my time with loyalty to him.

Though I am a working woman with two children, I take part in the work of conducting state affairs as a Deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly.

My present true life owes entirely to the socialist system of our country where the greatest importance is attached to people in every respect and where everything is made to serve them.

Hong Yong Ok

The great leader President Kim Il Sung taught: **"...in socialist society the working people display a high degree of revolutionary enthusiasm and creative initiative in their productive activities, since they work for their society and collective and for their own welfare as masters of the country."**

Our country sees a brilliant labour success in the struggle to fulfil the Second Seven-Year Plan (1978-1984), a new long-term plan, and the ranks of plan fulfillers are expanding constantly.

Now I introduce the reader to some of them in the Hamhung Woolen Mill.

THEIR DESIRE

(Li Gye Wol and Li Bok Sun at Silk Workshop)

Li Gye Wol and Li Bok Sun are called "twin" weavers of the Hamhung Woolen Mill.

As seen in a photo, however, they are different in looks, age, and length of service.

Twenty-four-year-old Li Gye Wol (left) works in the mill for seven years as a weaver.

Twenty-one-year-old Li Bok Sun (right) became a textile worker about four years ago.

Why, then, are they called, "twin" weavers?

They told me a following story:

In January 1978 the whole country embarked on the vigorous march to carry out the Second Seven-Year Plan. The mill, too, launched out on an active labour struggle.

Successive new records were created every day and every hour.

The success of Li Gye Wol, famous innovator of the silk workshop, became the focus of public attention, in particular.

On a rough estimate, it became obvious that she would be able to carry out her seven years' assignments within one and a half year.

When she got started on the new seven-year plan, Li Gye Wol made a resolve to be a multi-loom operator. It required a new method of making her rounds of looms.

At her hostel she tried to run the round of beds lengthwise and crosswise, supposing them to be looms, and even at spare moments of mealtime she would make a drawing of looms on paper to study a novel method of circuit.

By such strenuous efforts, she succeeded, at last, in devising a new circuit method, which enabled her to operate twice as many looms.

From that time on, she showed remarkable results of work in swift tempo.

Then, her roommate Li Bok Sun was inwardly troubled over something. No one knew about it. She keenly envied Gye Wol for her hourly and daily great achievement and innovations.

Bok Sun entertained a burning ambition to do like her but hesitated about it doubting if she herself could do so as a green hand.

One day on their way back from the mill, Bok Sun asked Gye Wol point-blank, "Dear sister, how many years should I take to become an innovator like you?"

"Bok Sun, it matters little to innovation how long one works," Gye Wol answered with gentle eyes.

"Then can I introduce it, too?" asked Bok Sun again, her eyes shining.

"It depends on your determined efforts, I think. I'll help you. So let's try our best together."

Popular workers, Li Gye Wol (left) and Li Bok Sun

From the next day Bok Sun began to acquaint herself with a new circuit method under her help, and as the days rolled on she came to operate more looms gradually.

Gye Wol made her every exertion to give assistance to Bok Sun, denying herself all comforts.

At length Bok Sun could take upon herself the same number of looms with Gye Wol.

Two weavers, since then, scored equal successes in their working, and went to workplace and back together at all times. That's why people have called them "twin sisters."

On January 29, 1979 Li Gye Wol fulfilled her assignment of the Second Seven-Year Plan first of all in the mill, and in the wake of her, Bok Sun did the same on March 23.

It means they wove cloth sextuple as much as their norm each day.

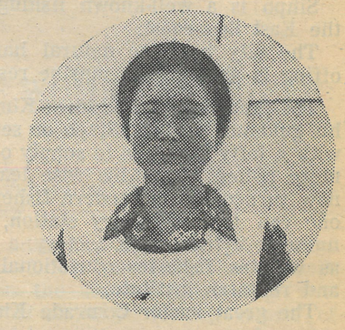
Before finishing my interview with them, I asked Gye Wol a purposeful question that if she had spared her exertions and times that were devoted to Bok Sun, she would have attained her goal faster and more easily.

She answered with a smile:

"Our endeavour to make an innovation and new record is never designed to earn fame or reward. The more fabrics are woven by so many innovators, the faster the country's industrial production increases, the better off the people is and the greater happiness I enjoy. So, it's natural that I should have helped her."

A POPULAR WEAVER

(Kim Sun Won at Weaving Workshop)



In the mill everyone knows Kim Sun Won because she makes a good productive record at all times.

Already in the period of the past Six-Year Plan (1971-1976), her name had been well known among weavers for her fulfillment of six years' quota within four years.

Now she has attained another miraculous success by completing her task of the Second Seven-Year Plan in May, 1979.

Weavers presented a bouquet of congratulation to Kim Sun Won who carried out her assignments for seven years successfully in less than one and a half year. They are endeavouring to learn her knowhow of work, and every green hand vies with each other to receive training from her.

As a matter of fact, hers are not highly efficient looms worth mentioning nor is she endowed with uncommon talent. What, then, made her obtain such a success?

Her following narration cleared up my doubt.

It was not her hope at first to be a textile worker. From her childhood she was a clever painter. Accordingly, people expected her to be a female artist, and so did she.

In 1967 when she finished a technical school, there appeared in Hamhung, her native place, a large-scale woolen mill with up-to-date facilities.

Many of her schoolmates got their jobs with the woolen mill that started operation.

Her mind, too, inclined towards it.

A thought struck her that a textile worker weaving beautiful cloth with various patterns was better than an artist of painting a picture on a drawing board.

The woolen mill is permeated with the warm solicitude of the fatherly leader who is desirous of furnishing more and better suit materials to our people who had groaned in rags under Japanese imperialist colonial rule. She strengthened her resolve on the first day of her working in the woolen mill. She made a persistent effort from the start to learn technical skill. Two

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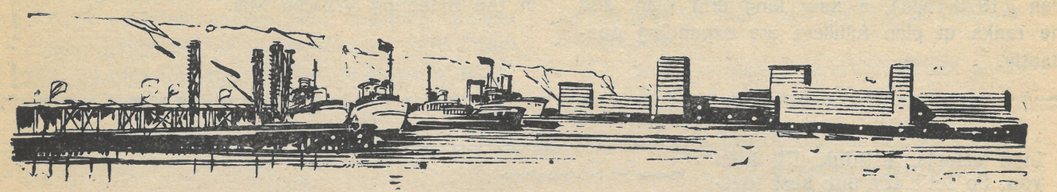


WOMEN OF A FISHING PORT CITY

Sinpo is a well-known fishing port city on the East Sea coast.

The city has fine natural harbours and its offing is abundant in marine resources.

The great leader President Kim Il Sung made his guidance visits to Sinpo on several occasions with a lofty intention to supply our people with more fishes. Under his wise leadership it has now turned into a modern fisheries city. Here one can find a fishery station, a cannery, a nursery, a fishing-net factory, a barrel factory, as well as fisheries educational establishment and research institute.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung has taught:

"Development of the fishing industry is of importance in improving the people's living standard."

In hearty response to the teaching of the great leader, the women of Sinpo are also taking active part in the worth-while labour to increase the volume of marine products, thus making much contribution to it.

I went there to interview them.

* * *

Morning dawns at the port city of Sinpo.

White sea-gulls wheel merrily above the boundless golden waves of the East Sea.

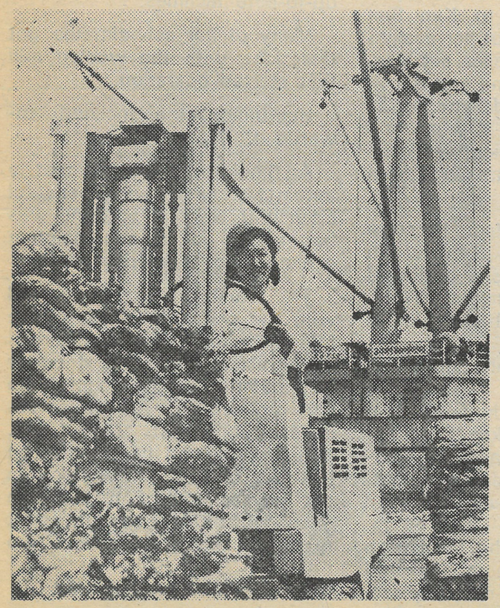
The harbour is a veritable forest of masts and floating cranes. And ships return to port and leave it sounding a steam-whistle intimately.

The Sinpo Fishery Station is in a bustle from early morning, for a large transport ship "Rapalsan" has cast its anchor.

Big cranes continuously bring down loads of frozen fish from the hold.

Lifting cars fully loaded with fish rush for the cold-storage shop.

Operator Hwang Chun Wol



TALKS WITH AN OPERATOR

Hwang Chun Wol, a girl lifting car operator, was the first one whom I interviewed in Sinpo.

"I saw you drive your car faster than others. You've overfulfilled your assignment, haven't you?"

"Yes, I've carried 50 tons more over the plan."

Answering my question about a key to the success, she related the following story:

On November 6, 1976, the great leader gave on-the-spot guidance to the fishery station. It was a few months since she had got employment in it after finishing a middle school.

Endless was the joy of Chun Wol who met him at the wharf.

She could hardly repress the swelling emotion when she was imparted the teachings of the fatherly leader who showed warm affection for the mountain villagers so that they could eat fresh fish all the year round.

With an ardent desire of embodying his lofty intention more thoroughly, she became a lifting car operator in the cold-storage shop.

She wished to send those refrigerated pelagic fish as soon as possible to all parts of the country. Such a feeling of hers ran always ahead of her car.

It was not confined to Chun Wol alone. Other lifting car operators, cold-storage workers, and workwomen of the fish-processing shop, nay, all the women of the Sinpo Fishery Station are now speeding up their task with a creative zeal.

* *

Going up along the wharf you can find a modern tall building at the seashore. It is the Sinpo Fishes Cannery.

Fishes of many kinds such as lockington, saury, cuttlefish and salmon-trout are put up in cans, on the conveyor system. All this automated gigantic equipment is operated by women. I talked with a woman named Pak Gum Ok at the canning shop.

TWO FISHES AND CANNERY

In her middle school days Gum Ok cherished many hopes; she wished to be a doctor or a gardener.

In 1957 when she completed the middle school course, an up-to-date cannery made its appearance in Sinpo, her home town.

One day she visited it together with her friends. She was sunk in a deep thought looking at the canning process of fishes flowing in and out on the conveyor belt in endless streams.

Before national liberation poor people like Gum Ok's family could hardly eat fish even though they lived at the seaside. On her birthday her mother barely obtained two fishes for little Gum Ok. Her mother would recount this episode again and again for many years.

But, it is now a thing of the past. After liberation, the great leader saw to it that fishery stations were set up solidly in various parts of the country to supply people with fresh and canned fishes of many kinds in all seasons.

Now at the fine cannery Gum Ok was so impressed that she made a resolve to devote her life to the work there.

Becoming a factory girl, she did her job with extraordinary zeal and passion.

Her photo and labour success made frequent appearances on the flash board conspicuously.

She is now a mother of three children.

However, she takes the lead as ever without slackening the passion and ardour of her young days.

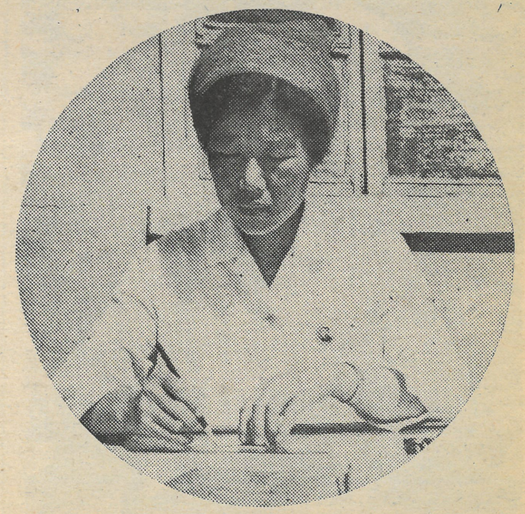
* *

Women engineers can be found, too, in the cannery, besides women workers. Kye Jong Suk is one of them, who holds a post in the repair and maintenance section.

PRIDE OF WOMAN ENGINEER

Kye Jong Suk completed the course of engineering at a fisheries college in 1965 and entered this cannery.

The fishing port city captured her fancy. Before national liberation only shabby sailboats floated on the sea off Sinpo. But now there are crowds of large fishing vessels of several thousand tons like so many high buildings on the sea, forming another floating city



Engineer Kye Jong Suk

at night.

Furthermore, how excellent cannery installations are!

From the first days of her working in the cannery, she understood that the full operation of every equipment was an important means of increasing production, and thus she came to awake to her heavy duty.

To begin with, she grasped the actual conditions of all equipment, and found out those accessories and parts which were liable to abrasion, then wrote them down on the cards. They were "record card on machines" registering the actual state of machine accessories, the date for their replacement and the results of repairs, which were something like "clinical record" used in hospital.

According to those cards of her own making, she timely draws blueprints for the accessories to be replaced and hands them over to the repair and maintenance shop.

Uninterrupted operation of all the installations and equipment of the cannery without wearing out year after year—herein lies her all joy and pride.

At a happy time for their going to work

MOTHER AND DAUGHTER

I met two harmonious women on their way home after work. I found them to be a mother and her daughter.

Mother Hong Do Hwa is a model worker of the boiled fish-paste workteam of the canning shop and her daughter Kang Jong Sun is a green hand in the packing shop.

Parent and child at home, but in the work place, they are equal workers and revolutionary comrades.

A veteran worker, the mother minutely teaches and awakens her daughter, an untrained hand.

Of course, the mother does not lag behind her daughter in the production results, but her daughter, too, overfulfils her assignment at all times.

So, they advance along the path of innovation amid the wordless competition in a sense.

With a joy of overfulfilling their daily task, the mother and her daughter bend their steps homeward always in a merry mood.

CHILDREN OF SINPO

There stands a cozy and clean house markedly nearby the wharf of Sinpo lapped by the waves melodiously. At the first glance I could find it a nursery.

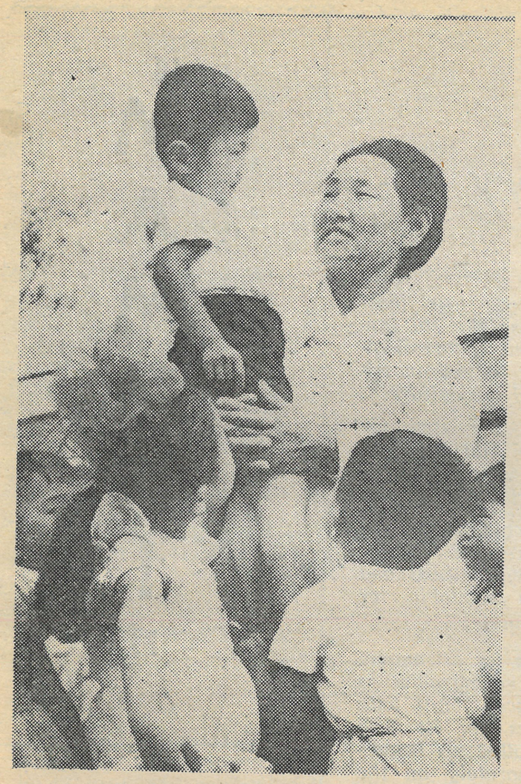
When I entered it, children were merrily romping about the playground thickly fenced with fruit and flowering trees. Their cheeks tanned leathery in the salt air were plump like apples.

All of them were sons and daughters of the women in Sinpo who were engaged in the fishing industry.

Nursery teachers there devote all their efforts and sincerity to bringing up the children in a better way in accordance with the great leader's wishes.

Nursery head Ham Du Il has the particularly warm love and sincerity for children. However, she had led a bitter life of many griefs in the past.

When she attained the age of eleven, under Japanese imperialist colonial rule, her father employed on a Jap-owned fishing boat went out to the sea never to return.



Nursery Head Ham Du Il among children

She gathered *miyok* seaweed and dug out shellfish together with her mother only to eke out a scant livelihood. One windy day her sucking brother breathed its last on a sandy beach after crying all day long. Such a miserable lot was common to all the sons and daughters of Korean fishermen before national liberation.

But now the entire children of our country are growing up happily as the "king" of the country and as the flower of the fatherland under the loving care of the great leader.

So, the nursery head Ham Du Il and nursery teachers find their real pride and joy in rearing the strong and valiant future conquerors of the sea.

I interviewed only a few women in Sinpo, but through them, I was able to see the vigorous, cheerful spirit of all women in Sinpo who are making a contribution to the development of the fishing industry.

Kim Mun Hye

METAL TYPE

Many people of the world believe that Gutenberg of Germany invented the first metal type in the mid-fifteenth century and made a printing.

But our metal type was contrived already between the 12th century and the early 13th century preceding that of the former by more than two centuries.

In the 10th-11th centuries, our country attained a considerable level of wood-block printing.

1230 saw the establishment of a state-run printing agency named "Sojokwon", which conducted a large-scale printing work.

Wood-block printing had many shortcomings in its capacity and utilization.

Specialists in the publishing and printing field carried on many-sided researches to eliminate the shortcomings.

Thus metal type was invented in the first half of the 12th century.

It was the world's first metal type which bore a close parallel to modern types in the ingredient and technique of type-casting.

According to the historic records, "Kogumsangjongryemun" written in 1234 by Li Gyu Bo, a savant of our country, was printed in metal type.

Latest results of research work, however, throw light on the fact that there were books printed in metal type far previous to that.

The development of metal type printing resulted in faster and better publication of books while economizing in time, labour and materials by far than that of wood-block or wooden type printing.

The invention of metal type facilitated the rapid progress of printing culture, and between the 13th century and the 14th century professional printing offices with over 140 employees came into being and specialists were brought up.

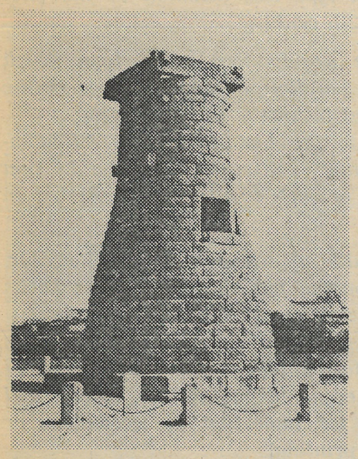
Like this, the advancement of metal type printing contributed much to the development of our national culture.

Chomsongdae Observatory

Chomsongdae in Kyongju, world-famous astronomical observatory, is the oldest structure among those now remaining on earth.

Chomsongdae attains a height of about 9 metres piled up with rectangularly trimmed granite, illustrating a developed astronomical and meteorological observations and distinguished architecture of our country in that time.

Chomsongdae Observatory



This observatory was built in the first half of the 7th century to carry out meteorological observations for astronomical research and agriculture.

Chomsongdae was used for the observations on the sun, moon, shooting stars, planets, solar eclipse and lunar eclipse.

Studied and collected at the observatory were the weather conditions for agriculture and the actual data available for calendar compilation.

As a structure for astronomical research, Chomsongdae is comparatively well built with needed facilities for its own purpose. It is piled up beautifully and elaborately on the basis of the correct calculation of mathematical engineering as an observatory.

What is unique in its building is to pile it up circularly in 27 layers with rectangularly trimmed granite by means of interlocking without using any binding agent. Many years have elapsed since its erection, but it still stands unchanged.

Chomsongdae in Kyongju is widely known to the world for its splendid architecture, showing a highly developed astronomy. It is a treasured cultural relic of our people.

(continued from page 37)

years later, she became a full-fledged skilled hand, then kept up her endeavour to train herself into a multi-loom operator.

Especially, at the stage of carrying out the Second Seven-Year Plan, she initiated quite a novel circuit method and invented an automatic device to introduce them into production, which enabled her to tend twice the number of looms at a leap. Without resting on her laurel, however, she is vigorously advancing toward a higher target.

Kim Song Chil

"MAMMA!"

Atrocity committed by the Hitlerites at the Auschwitz concentration camp during World War II is universally known as an instance of the brutalities of the fascist hangmen.

But, the bestial nature and viciousness of barbarities committed by the US imperialist aggressors in our country surpassed those of the Hitler fascist clique by far.

The US imperialist aggressors temporarily occupied some areas of the northern half of the Republic during our Fatherland Liberation War (1950-1953); everywhere they went they frantically perpetrated fiendish massacre.

In Sinchon County of the South Hwanghae Province alone they cruelly butchered over 35,300 innocent people, a quarter of the population, in 45 days, and carried out horrible atrocities of slaughtering 87 per cent of the entire inhabitants of Mangung-ri of the same county.

The enemies arrested guiltless people at random regardless of new-born babies or old folks of 70 years and slew them by burying alive, burning, dynamiting, skinning off bodies, digging out eyeballs, sawing through bodies and so on, thus they fully revealed the brutal nature of cutthroats.

Look at this picture showing a baby crying for mother.

Its eyes are swollen with ceaseless crying and blood oozes from its finger nails hurt by scratching ground. And yet, why doesn't mother answer to the lamentation of her baby?

The US imperialist aggressors occupied their village and forcibly dragged out women and children and buried them alive. The baby, too, was buried alive with its mother, but barely escaped from a heap of corpses and crawled out of the blood-stained earth with desperate efforts.

The baby knows nothing but a word "Mamma" and her genial smile and warm breast; it cannot make out that its mother is no longer alive.

"Mamma!" "Mamma!" A heart-rending tearful voice echoes through the desolated field enveloped with powder smoke....

The US imperialist aggressors made every vicious attempt to subjugate our people in such a way and to break the spirit of Korea entirely.

By any atrocious method, however, they could not bring our people into submission.

The cry full of grudge of the little one who survived the terror of death is, in itself, the appeal of vengeance against the bloodthirsty US imperialists.

Tears swelling up in the baby's bright eyes and rolling down its charming cheeks bear an eternal witness to the crimes of the US imperialist aggressors against our women and children.

The US imperialist aggressors have engaged in aggression against our country for over 100 years and brought immeasurable hardships and misfortunes on our people. They will suffer due punishment certainly.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung has taught:

"In order to satisfy their lust for power and revel in luxury and splendour, the south Korean authorities do not hesitate to take the treacherous step of selling the country and people to foreign aggressors."

In south Korea today the anti-popular rule of the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique has reached the climax of tyranny, and the human rights of the people there including women and children are trampled underfoot completely.

On top of that, there is much human traffic in the south Korean society.

The Pak Jung Hi puppet clique continue to sell a great number of south Korean women and other people to various capitalist countries under the name of "miners" and "nurses", to say nothing of little ones as "adopted children".

Those children who were sold out to foreign countries are now languishing there with their hopes crushed, and scarcely a day passes without witnessing their tragic death.

From the following article written by a Japanese woman we can see the criminal acts of human traffic committed by the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique.

AT THE SIGHT OF SOLD BABIES

It happened in early August last year in an airplane on the Tokyo-Paris line.

In my opposite seat a white man was feeding acidophilus milk to a baby a few months old.

At first I paid no particular attention to it nor cast curious eyes on it, for I regarded him as the father of the baby.

Several hours later, however, I found four babies lying asleep in line on a seat by his side.

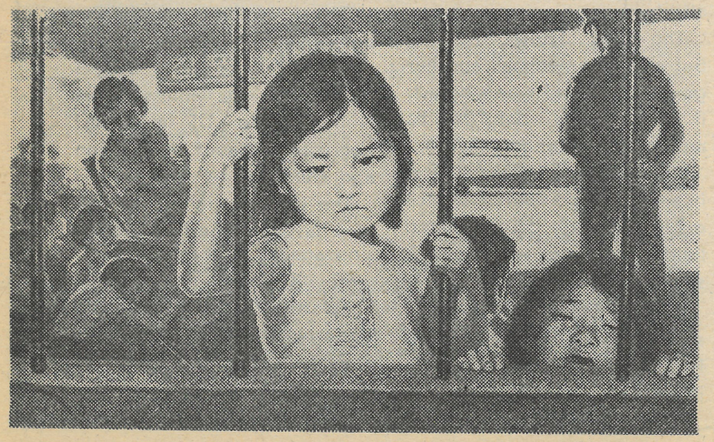
I surveyed the passengers to look for their parents, but in vain.

"Who are those babies?!" With suspicion, I looked hard at their faces.

They were alike each other in age and colour. Undoubtedly, they were Oriental infants.

"What made them go on board this airplane and where to?!"

South Korean children are traded away to foreign countries as adopted children



Entertaining such a doubt, I could not pass it over lightly in my capacity as a mother.

Meanwhile the night advanced, and the white man and others fell all asleep. But I could get no sleep.

Time went on.

I was sunk in thought looking at the sleeping little ones, when a woman came in with an infant girl in her arms and laid her quietly beside them.

I rose to my feet instantly to step up to the woman and asked cautiously who they were.

"...Babies from south Korea. They are being traded away to Denmark as adopted children...," said the woman with a long sigh.

According to her, they were six in all; five babies and one infant girl of five years old.

Looking at those little ones in sound sleep while listening to her words, I was lost in deeper thinking.

A three-month-old baby should be suckled to the full at its mother's breast and cradled in her arms while taking a sound and sweet sleep to grow fast. That's the natural thing to be expected.

Nevertheless, such sucklings are now separated from their mothers and sold out to the faraway alien land, where live no parents to warmly embrace and love them but only foreign people different from them in language and custom. These innocent children would acquire a foreign language instead of their own, conform themselves to foreign customs and come to regard the strange land as their "motherland". This thinking made my heart break, indeed.

At dawn the airplane landed at the Paris Airport.

After a while deplaned the white man and a stewardess with the five babies some on their backs and others in their arms, and the five-year-old little girl taking a nurse by the hand.

Watching the girl look around blinking her eyes to know where she stood, I could not repress my surging feelings of resentment as a mother myself with children to provide for.

Why should those innocent sucklings be sold out? At what fault? How is it that their parents sell their lovely children to the foreign country instead of rearing them finely under their care? Is it owing to lack of love for their children on the part of the parents of south Korea?

No. Who would sell their own children away to others?

In south Korea today children are not regarded as an object of social protection but looked upon as a means of obtaining foreign money. Such a phenomenon is not considered a crime but enforced as a "state policy".

It is said that during 11 years from 1966 to 1976, more than 31,000 south Korean children were sold to foreign countries for 72,900,000 dollars.

Now, gazing at the retreating figures of the infants sold from south Korea, I sincerely wished Korea would be reunified at the earliest possible date.

YONEHARA MICHIKO,
Official of the Federation of Japanese Women's Organizations (FUDANREN)

A FRAGMENTARY THOUGHT WITH PHOTO

"Please Give Me a Penny"

Photo shows a corner of a city street in south Korea.

"I'm dying with hunger. Please give me a penny." With an imploring voice a boy begs alms putting out his little hands towards passers-by.

He lost his father owing to labour accident, and his mother breathed her last suffering from illness.

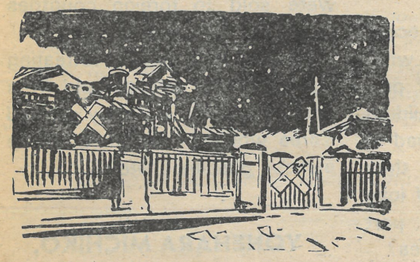
He was left an orphan without anyone to depend on. He tramps up and down the streets all day long on an empty stomach, but what he gains is contempt and icy treatment alone.

Streets in south Korea swarm with more than 3 million poor children like him, shut out of the proper means of living and learning. This is another tragedy resulted from anti-popular rule by the US imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique.

The reunification of the divided country is the one and only course that enables this pitiable boy to enjoy the same great happiness as the children in the northern half of the Republic do.

"The south Korean people are subjected to unbearable racial insults and contempt, and even their right to existence is constantly threatened by the US imperialist aggressors."

KIM IL SUNG



"IN DARKLAND OF SOUTH KOREA"

Trampled Personal Rights of South Korean Women

Groaning under the tyranny of the US imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique the south Korean women have their personal rights trampled underfoot miserably in the socio-political and economic life only because of "womankind", to say nothing of the equal rights with men.

Here are some glimpses of their pitiable circumstances.

The Jobless Form Over 95 Per Cent of Able-bodied Women

In south Korea today the jobless form over 95 per cent of the entire able-bodied women.

Industrial establishments employ mostly young girls because they can underpay and sweat them and readily pacify labour dispute. So, old or married women are unable to get a job. Even those employed girls are dismissed the moment they get married.

Female workers of the Y.H. Trading Company are on the sit-in strike for the right to existence under the slogan "We Are Starving. Give Us Food!"

Their Wages Are Only 43.9 Per Cent of Those of Male Workers

The wages of women workers in south Korea are only 43.9 per cent of those of men doing the same work. They are the lowest starvation wages in the world.

In the "Masan free export zone" providing employment to 25,000 female hands, apprentices work at a monthly wage of 10,000 *won*, green hands with the length of service for about one year at 15,000-18,000 *won*, and skilled workers at 35,000-40,000 *won*.

The minimum living costs (for a family of 5) reach more than 107,000 *won* there. So, their low pay is less than one third of this figure.

UNYIELDING STRUGGLE

(From article of Kono Yoshiko, Head of a Department of the Women's Affairs Bureau of the Japan Socialist Party)

In her article entitled "Unyielding Struggle of South Korean Workers" Kono Yoshiko, Head of a Department of the Women's Affairs Bureau of the Japan Socialist Party, exposed the bestial oppressive measures taken by the south Korean fascist clique against the sit-in strike of the female workers of the Y.H. Trading Company. She stressed:

"South Korean workers shouted 'We are human beings. We are not animal nor machine.' The female workers of the Tongil Textile Mill and the Pangrim Spinning Mill carried on the fierce struggle for the human dignity standing courageously against the power despite of its acts of violence on them in the Pyonghwa Market in Seoul. That spark of their struggle has spread to the current fight of the workwomen of the Y.H. Trading Company, I think.

"The fact shows vividly that the more oppression, the stronger the struggle of the workers.

"To strongly protest against the south Korean fascist 'government' and strive to realize the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea as soon as possible—this is, I believe, the very means for strengthening the real solidarity with the south Korean workers in their bloody struggle."

Tragedy of Bloodshed for Female Workers!

In mid-August last 200 odd female workers of the "Y.H. Trading Company" in Songdong District, Seoul, waged the sit-in strike for the right to live against their dismissal from factory.

The south Korean puppet clique let loose more than 2,000 policemen to commit indiscriminate violence and inflicted bloody wound on them, arresting over 170. That day a woman named Kim Gyong Sun lost her life to a murderous weapon of the fascist gang.

They committed such a sanguinary outrage on the female workers who cried only for food and job. Where in the world could we witness such an infringement of human rights outside of south Korea?

Like this the working women in south Korea are being deprived of even their right to live by daily increasing oppression and obliged to enrich the pocket of the US imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique by their sweat and blood. It is natural that the female workers there should turn out in the more vigorous struggle against the US imperialists and their lackeys, the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique, to recover the rights as the real master of society and to lead a life worthy of human beings by extricating themselves from today's suffering.

The puppet policemen forcibly walk the women sit-in strikers off

Unity Is Guarantee of Victory

The non-aligned movement which started the historic march with 25 new-born independent countries nearly 20 years ago has today grown and strengthened into a powerful international movement involving 95 countries of the new-emerging forces in its ranks.

The great leader President Kim Il Sung taught:

"The non-alignment movement is a powerful anti-im perialist revolutionary force reflecting the main trend of the present era."

The present era is an era of independence. It is the main trend of our time which no force can check that the world's people demand independence and many countries take the road of independence.

The non-aligned movement reflects this trend of the present era and embodies the lofty idea of anti-imperialism and independence.

The non-aligned movement greatly contributes to the sacred struggle of the people for winning the cause of independence against imperialism and colonialism.

Great is the role of the non-aligned movement in the world revolution and international affairs.

The non-aligned movement has consistently waged a resolute struggle, decisively rejecting any attempt to divide the world into blocs and spheres of influence of the big powers and opposing all forms of aggression and interference, subjugation and inequality.

It has played a big part in defending the sovereignty of the people, maintaining world peace and security and promoting the anti-imperialist liberation struggle of the oppressed nations. It has also positively contributed to checking the arbitrariness of the strong nations in international relations and settling international problems in the interest of the world's people.

Events which have taken place in the development of the world revolutionary movement and international affairs in the past period have testified to the great vitality of the non-aligned movement and demonstrated its united strength.

Frightened at the growth of the impact of the non-aligned movement, the imperialists now direct the spearhead of their attack against it.

The imperialists try to weaken and destroy the unity of this movement by driving a wedge, sowing discord and causing disruption and conflicts among non-aligned countries and thereby making them fight each other.

Moreover, the imperialists are vying with each other in involving themselves in these disputes and conflicts among non-aligned countries and openly interfering in them and waging a fierce scramble to bring these countries under their control.

The situation created by the imperialists' machinations requires the defence of the unity of the non-aligned movement.

Unity is a basic guarantee of victory.

It is an important problem vitally affecting the fate of the non-aligned movement whether or not the movement defends its unity by frustrating the scheme of the imperialists designed to put the non-aligned countries, developing countries, under a new yoke of slavery and to divide and alienate them from one another and disintegrate them.

Non-aligned countries have good grounds to unite and cooperate with each other. They had similar fates in the past and have common ideal and purpose of struggle today. All of them suffered from the imperialists' exploitation and oppression before, and are now aspiring after the independent development of their countries and taking the road of building a new society and creating a new life. And they desire the establishment of a new international relation free from subjugation and inequality.

These commonnesses enable non-aligned countries to band together closely transcending the difference in the social system, political view and idea; and practically they have acted in this way until now. The common denominator of non-aligned countries is greater than the points of difference and the strength uniting these countries is more powerful than the strength trying to divide them.

Non-aligned countries could successfully beat off the aggression, interference and splitting schemes of the imperialists and advance along one road of victory by attaching prime importance to unity and subordinating every thing to this. United, we will emerge victorious; Divided, we cannot escape defeat. It is a truth testified by practice.

The cohesion of non-aligned countries can be solid one only when it is based on independence.

If they unite on the principle of independence, they can defeat any imperialists and settle all affairs for the interests of the progressive people in the international arena.

The might of the non-aligned movement can be strengthened not only by the political solidarity among its member nations but also by their close economic cooperation.

If they exchange raw materials, technical skills and experience and cooperate with one another on the principle of filling one another's needs, they would be able to tighten their political solidarity and step up the building of an independent national economy of each country. It would also quickly strengthen the power of the non-aligned movement as a whole and promote the cause of anti-imperialism and independence. This would facilitate the effective struggle to establish a new international economic order, too.

Successful accomplishment of the honourable mission of the non-aligned movement, a powerful anti-imperialist revolutionary force of our time, depends entirely on the display of its united strength.

The non-aligned movement is sure to be crowned with victory in the fulfilment of its historic task by strengthening its unity under the banner of anti-imperialism and independence.

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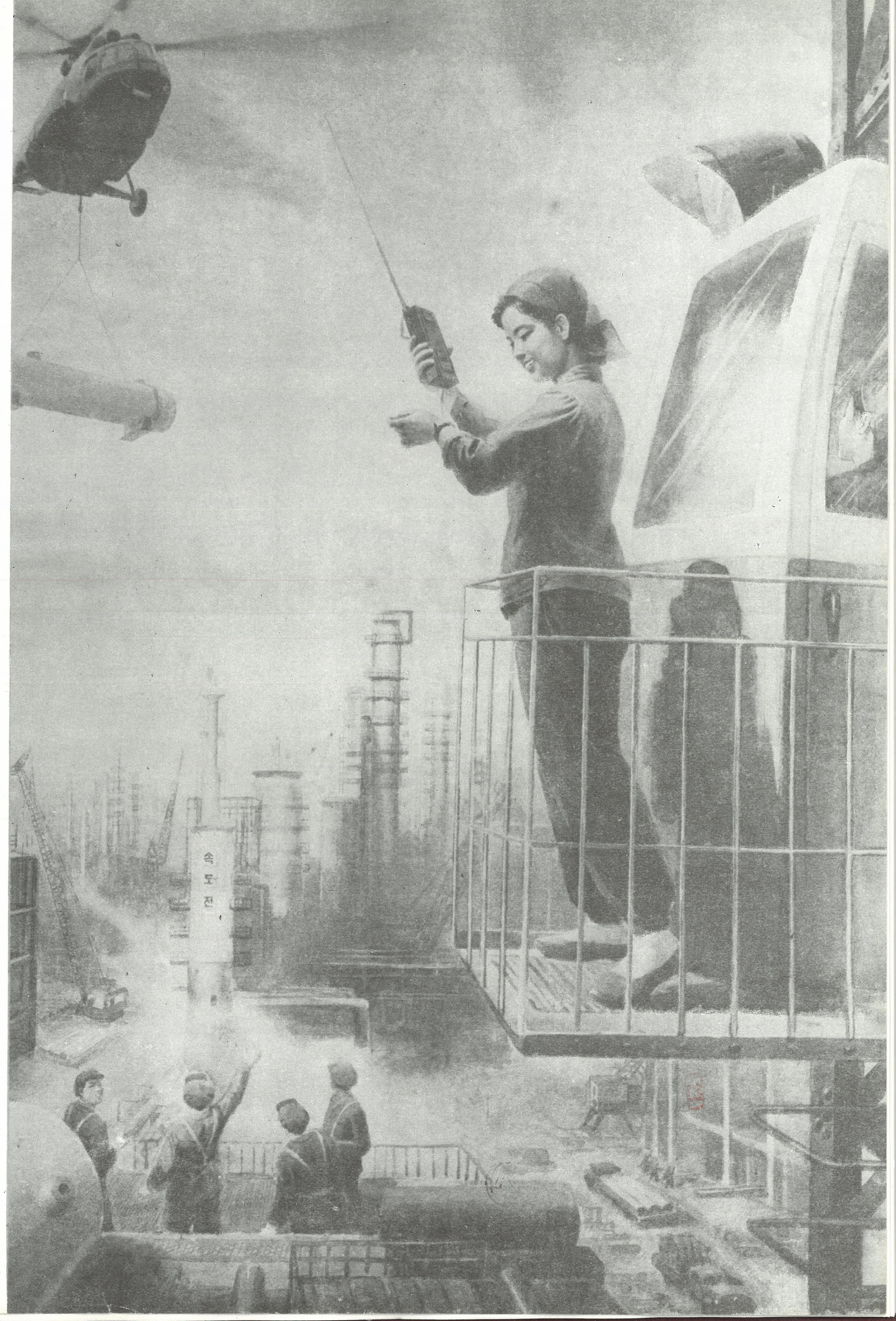
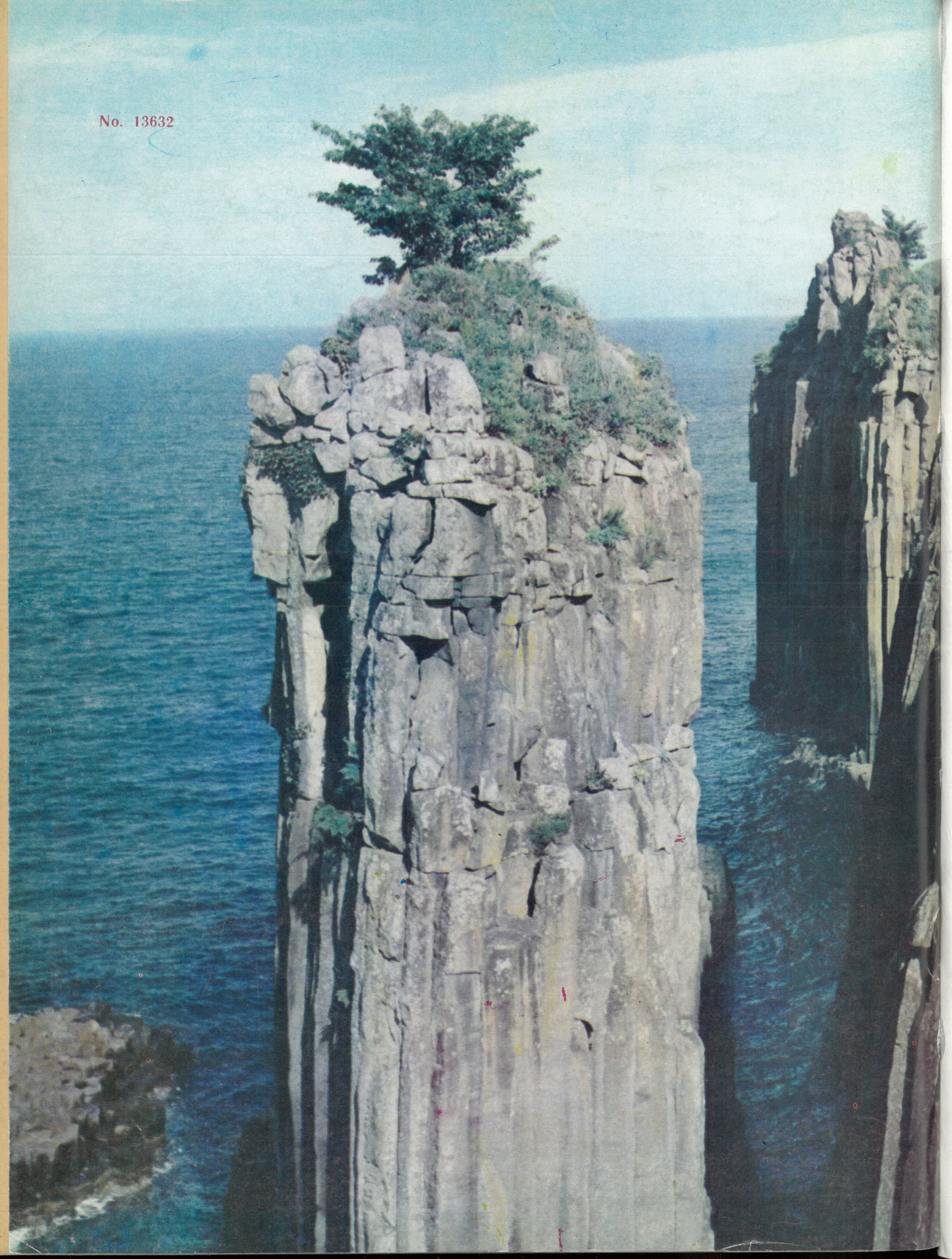
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